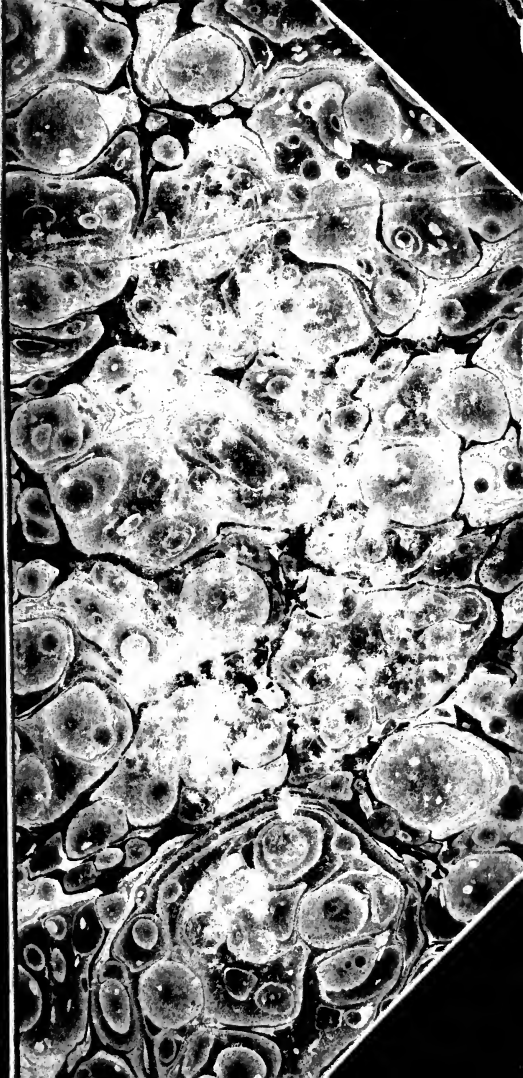


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TOPOGRAPHY
OF
Great Britain,
OR,
BRITISH TRAVELLER'S
POCKET DIRECTORY;
BEING AN ACCURATE AND COMPREHENSIVE
TOPOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
OF
ALL THE COUNTIES
IN
England, Scotland, and Wales,
WITH THE
ADJACENT ISLANDS:
ILLUSTRATED WITH
MAPS OF THE COUNTIES,
WHICH FORM
A COMPLETE BRITISH ATLAS.

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

VOL. XVII.
CONTAINING
LEICESTERSHIRE AND LINCOLNSHIRE.


London:

Printed, by Assignment from the Executors of the late C. Cooke,
FOR
SHERWOOD, NEELY, AND JONES, PATERNOSTER-ROW;
AND SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.



A
TOPOGRAPHICAL
AND
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
OF THE
COUNTY OF LEICESTER :

Containing an Account of its

Situation,	Minerals,	Agriculture,
Extent,	Fisheries,	Curiosities,
Towns,	Manufactures,	Antiquities,
Roads,	Trade,	Natural
Rivers,	Commerce,	History,

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, &c.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

*The Direct and Principal Cross Roads,
Distances of Stages, Inns, and
Noblemen and Gentlemen's Seats.*

ALSO

A LIST OF THE MARKETS AND FAIRS,

And an Index Table,

Exhibiting at one View, the Distances of all the Towns from London,
and of Towns from each other :

The whole forming

A COMPLETE COUNTY ITINERARY.

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

Illustrated with a

MAP OF THE COUNTY,

AND FOUR INTERESTING VIEWS.

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G. SIDNEY, Printer,
Northumberland Street, Strand.

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A TABLE

OF THE

PRINCIPAL TOWNS

IN THE

COUNTY OF LEICESTER;

Their distance from London, Markets, Number of Houses and Inhabitants, with the time of the arrival and departure of the Post.

Towns.	Dis	Mark.	Hos.	Inha bits.	Post arrives	Post depts.
Ashby de la Zouch	115	Satur.	95	3144	3½ Af.	7¾ M.
Belton	116	...	119	544		
Billesdon... ..	98	Friday	121	534		
Hallaton... ..	91	Thurs.	147	593		
Hinckley... ..	100	Mond.	1126	6058	10¾ M.	1¼ Af.
Kegworth	115		307	1559		
Leicester... ..	98	Satur.	4756	25146	10¼ M.	3 Af.
Loughborough	109	Thurs.	1148	5400	12¾ Af.	1¼ M.
Lutterworth ...	88	Thurs.	425	1845	9 M.	2¾ Af.
Market Bosworth	106	Wed.	172	865		
Market Harboro'	83	Fues.	343	1704	8¾ M.	5 Af.
Melton Mowbray	105	Fues.	422	2145	12½ Af.	11¾ M.
Mountsorrel ...	105	Mon.	281	1502	11¾ M.	1½ Af.
Waltham-on-the Wold }	108	Thurs.	93	512		

The Price of postage for a single letter varies from 8d. to 9d. throughout the County.

555522

AN INDEX TABLE OF THE DISTANCES FROM TOWN TO TOWN IN THE COUNTY OF LEICESTER.

The Names of the respective Towns are on the top and left side,
and the square where both meet, gives the distance.

	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	Distant from London	Miles	
Belton	4|Belton .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	115
Billesdon... ..	25|22|Billesdon .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	116
Hallaton	33|27|6|Hallaton .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	98
Hinckley... ..	18|16|21|28|Hinckley ... ..	.. ..	.. ..	91
Kegworth	10|5|22|22|22|Kegworth .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	100
Leicester... ..	18|14|8|15|13|16|Leicester .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	115
Loughborough	12|6|19|24|20|5|11|Loughborough .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	98
Lutterworth	27|25|17|20|11|29|12|23|Lutterworth... ..	.. ..	.. ..	109
Market Bosworth... ..	10|11|19|28|7|17|11|14|17|Market Bosworth ... ..	.. ..	.. ..	88
Market Harborough	34|28|9|7|24|30|15|26|13|25|Market Harborough... ..	.. ..	.. ..	106
Melton Mowbray	29|20|11|15|28|18|15|17|27|26|25|Melton Mowbray... ..	.. ..	.. ..	83
Mountsorrel	15|10|15|20|16|9|7|13|19|15|22|13|Mountsorrel .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	105
Waltham-on-the-Wold	33|24|14|22|18|22|21|19|31|19|23|5|18|Waltham-on-the-Wold	.. ..	.. ..	105
				108

INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE COUNTY OF LEICESTER.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent.</i>	<i>Contains.</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament</i>	<i>Produce and Manufactures.</i>
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire on the north. On the east by Lincolnshire, and Rutlandshire. On the south by Northamptonshire. And on the west by Warwickshire, and Derbyshire.	In length about 45 miles. In breadth 40. And in circumference about 96 miles.	6 Hundreds, 1 Borough, 11 Market Towns, 196 Parishes, 522,240 Acres, 26,734 Houses, 150,419 Inhabitants, viz. 73,336 Males, 77,053 Females.	4 Members, 2 For the County, 2 For the Borough of Leicester.	Leicestershire may be considered more as an agricultural than a manufacturing County, though in the article of stockings the manufacture is considerable. It is famous for its breed of large black cart-horses, and for its fine cattle and sheep.
Leicester is included in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of York.				

AN ITINERARY

OF ALL THE

DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS

IN

LEICESTERSHIRE.

In which are included the STAGES, INNS, and
GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

N.B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through; the Figures that follow show the Distances from Place to Place, Town to Town, and Stages; and in the last Column are the Names of Gentlemen's Seats and Inns. The right and left of the Roads are distinguished by the letters R and L.

LONDON TO LEICESTER.

Islington — —	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Holloway — —	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile beyond, on L. the New Road to Kentish Town, on R. over Finch- ley Common to Whetstone.		
Highgate — —	2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Entrance of Highgate on R. Major Arden. At 6th mile-stone on the R. see at Southgate Minchenden House. Between the 7th and 8th mile-stone — Scott, Esq.
On R. a T. R. to En- field, on L. to Ken- tish Town, over		

<i>Finchley Common, recently enclosed, to Whetstone-Green.</i>	1½	9	
<i>Or, avoiding Highgate, by the N. R. as above, to Whetstone.</i>		9	<i>Through Whetstone on R. Belmont Grove, J. Knight, Esq.; 1 mile beyond on R. Green Hill Grove, — Nicholls, Esq.; about 1 mile beyond, on the top of the Hill, Little Grove, T. Wilson, Esq.</i>
<i>BARNET, Herts —</i>	1¾	10¾	<i>About 3 miles on R. of Barnet, Trent Park, — Cummins, Esq.; at East Barnet, Everly Lodge, G. Wilson, Esq.; and Bohun Lodge, H. Davidson, Esq.</i>
<i>Over Hadley Green.</i>			<i>On L. Hadley Green, Mount House, D. Birket, Esq.</i>
<i>Barnet Pillar, Middlesex — —</i>	1	11¾	<i>Inns—Green Man and Red Lion.</i>
<i>On R. a T. R. to Hatfield & Hertford.</i>			
<i>Kitts End — —</i>	½	12¼	<i>New Lodge, Mrs. Barronneau; Wrotham Park, George Byng, Esq. R.; Durham Park, J. Trotter, Esq. L.; 1 mile beyond Kitts End on R. Dancer's Hill, G. Ellis, Esq.</i>
<i>South Mims —</i>	2½	14¾	<i>On R. North Mims, H. Browne, Esq.</i>
			<i>Inn—White Hart.</i>

Ridge Hill, <i>Herts</i>	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	Shenley Parsonage, Rev. P. Newcombe, R.; a little beyond Ridge Hill, on L. Salisbury, — Snell, Esq.
Colney — — —	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	17	Tiltenhanger, Earl of Hardwicke, R.; from Colney Bridge see on L. Colney Chapel and Park Simpson; $\frac{1}{2}$ mile beyond Colney on L. see Porters, L. White, Esq.; near the 20th mile-stone on L. St. Julian's, — Howard, Esq.
Cross the Colne River.			
St. Albans — —	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	21	Just before, on L. St. Stevens, Mrs. Howard, at St. Alban's; Holywell House, Earl Spencer, 2 miles from, on L. Gorbamby, Earl Verulam, Inns—Angel, White Hart, Woolpack.
On R. a T. R. to Hatfield and Luton, on L. to Watford, cross the Colne River.			
Redburn — —	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Within 1 mile. Cross the Colne twice.			
Market Street —	4	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	Market Cell, J. Howell, Esq. R.; 2 miles on L. Beachwood, Sir J. Sebright, Bt. Inn—The Sun.
DUNSTABLE, Bedford — —	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Hockliffe — —	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	38	Hockliffe Lodge, Col. Gilpin, L.; a little further Hockliffe Grange, R. — Gilpin, Esq.; beyond Hockliffe on L. Battlesden House, Sir Gregory O. P. Turner, Bart.
On L. a T. R. to Fenny Stratford.			

			Inns— <i>The Crown and Sugar Loaf.</i>
			<i>Between Hockliffe and Woburn on R. Melton Bryant, Sir Hugh Ingliss, Bart.</i>
Woburn — —	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	Woburn Abbey, containing a fine collection of Paintings, Duke of Bedford, R.; 2 miles beyond Woburn Crawley, C. Orlebar, Esq.
On R. a T. R. to Bedford.			
Wavenden, Bucks.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	46 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns—George, and Goat. Wavenden House, H. H. Hoare, Esq.
Broughton — —	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{3}{4}$	
NEWPORT PAGNELL	2	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>The Abbey, P. J. Ward, Esq.; through the Town on L. Col. Mansel; 2 miles beyond Newport Pagnell on L. see Gayhurst, Hon. P. C. Pierrepoint.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Wellingborough.			Inn— <i>The Serjeant and Swan.</i>
Lothbury Inn —	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	52 $\frac{1}{4}$	
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles beyond a T. R. to Bedford.			
Stoke Golding —	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Between Stoke Golding and Horton, on L. Salsey Forest, Duke of Grafton.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Olney.			
Horton — —	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	Horton House, Sir G. W. Gunning, Bart. R.; 2 miles on R. is Castle Ashby, the fine old seat of the Marquis of Northampton.

Hackleton, North-	—	—	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	61	2 miles beyond on L. is
ampton	—	—			Courteen Hall, Sir W.
					Wake, Bart.
Queen's Cross	—	4	65		Delapre Abbey, Hon. Ed-
On L. a T. R. to					ward Bouverie.
Stoney Stratford.					
NORTHAMPTON	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	66 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns—	The Angel, & George
On R. a T. R. to					
Wellingborough,					
on L. to Daven-					
try and Lutter-					
worth.					
Kingthorp	—	—	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	68 $\frac{1}{4}$	On L. Lady Cave; beyond
On L. a T. R. to					which see the Woods of
Lutterworth.					Althorp Park, Earl Spen-
					cer.
Brixworth	—	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{3}{4}$	Nicholls, — Strickland,
					Esq.
					Inn—Red Lion.
Lampport	—	—	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	75	Inn—The Swan.
Maidwell	—	—	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	76 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inn—The Goat.
Kelmarsh	—	—	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	79	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on R. Arkinworth,
					Rev. L. Rokeby.
Okendon	—	—	2	81	
Cross the Welland					
River.					
MARKET HARBO-	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	83 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 miles on R. Dingley, —		
ROUGH, Leicester			Aldridge, Esq.; 3 miles		
On R. a T. R. to			from Market Harbo-		
Kettering and			rough on R. Langton		
Rockingham, on			Hall, Rev. Mr. Ord; on		
L. to Lutter-			L. Gumley Hall, J. Cra-		
worth. Cross the			dock, Esq.		
Union Canal			Inns—Angel, and Three		
twice.			Swans.		
Kibworth	—	—	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	89 $\frac{1}{4}$	Through on L. Wistow, Sir
					Henry Halford, Bart.;
					on R. Sir Geo. Robinson,
					Bart.; a little further at

				<i>Stretton Parva,—Crossland, Esq. ; about 2 miles on R. Kibworth Carlton Carlieu, Rev. Mr. Palmer.</i>
Great Glen	—	3	92 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Oadby — —	—	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>About 1 mile on R. Stoughton Grange, G. A. Leigh Heck, Esq.</i>
				<i>Inn—The White Cross.</i>
LEICESTER — —	—	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	98	<i>2 miles on R. Humberstone, S. Allsop, Esq.</i>
				<i>Inns—The Blue Bell, Three Crows, and White Hart.</i>

FROM CAVENDISH BRIDGE TO HUSBAND'S BOSWORTH,

THROUGH LOUGHBOROUGH, MOUNT SORREL, AND
LINCOLN.

Cavendish Bridge to <i>A little beyond Cavendish Bridge on L. a T. R. to Nottingham, on R. to Ashby-de-la-Zouch.</i>				<i>Donnington Park, Marquis of Hastings, R.</i>
KEGWORTH — —	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$		<i>At Sutton Borington, Lady Parkyns, 1$\frac{1}{2}$ mile beyond, at Lockington, Rev. P. Story, L.</i>
<i>Three miles beyond Kegworth on R. a T. R. to Ashby-de-la-Zouch.</i>				
Hathern — —	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	7		<i>Whatton House, Edward Dawson, Esq. R.</i>
Dishley — —	1	8		<i>R. Honeybone, Esq. L. Four miles to the L. Stanford Hall, C. V. Dashwood, Esq, an Obelisk in Garendon Park, T. C. Philipps, Esq.</i>

LOUGHBOROUGH	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns—Anchor, <i>Bull's Head</i> . <i>Burley Hall, G. Tate, Esq. R.</i> 1 mile on R. the fine woods of <i>Beaumanor Park, W.</i> <i>Herrick, Esq.</i> ; on L. <i>J.</i> <i>Osbaldiston, Esq.</i> on R. a <i>White House, E. Farn-</i> <i>ham, Esq.</i> ; another on L. <i>Rev. Mr. Raworth.</i>
At the entrance of Loughborough on R. a T. R. to Ash- by-de-la-Zouch.			
Quorndon or Quærn	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	About 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from on R. <i>Swithland Hall, Hon. A.</i> <i>B. Danvers, and beyond,</i> <i>Rowcliffe Manor, James</i> <i>Heygate, Esq.</i>
MOUNTSORREL	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Cross the R. Soar.			
Belgrave — —	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	19	At <i>Wanlip, Sir Charles</i> <i>Hudson Palmer, and at</i> <i>Birstall, J. Mansfield,</i> <i>Esq. L.</i> At <i>Rothley, T.</i> <i>Babington, Esq. R.</i>
A little beyond Bel- grave on L. a T. R. to <i>Melton</i> <i>Mowbray.</i>			
LEICESTER — —	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns— <i>Blue Bell, Crane,</i> <i>Three Crowns.</i>
At Leicester, on L. a T. R. to <i>North-</i> <i>ampton.</i> On R. to <i>Ashby-de-la-</i> <i>Zouch.</i>			
— — —			
Wigston — —	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Branston Hall, C. Winstan-</i> <i>ley, Esq. R. Knighton</i> <i>Lodge, Sir Edmund Cra-</i> <i>dock Hartop, bart. L.</i>
Cross the Union Ca- nal.			
Shearsby — —	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Husband's Bos- worth.	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	34 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>F. Turwell, Esq.</i>
At Husband's Bos- worth, on R. a T. R. to <i>Lutter-</i> <i>worth</i> ; on L. to <i>Market Harbo-</i> <i>rough.</i>			

HARRINGTON BRIDGE TO SHEEPY,

THROUGH ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

Harrington Bridge to <i>About one mile from Harrington Bridge on R. a T. R. to Derby, on L. to Lough- borough.</i>			
Castle Donnington — — — —	2½	2½	<i>T. Fisher, Esq. Donnington Park, Marquis of Hastings, R.</i>
Isley Waldon — — — —	2½	5	<i>At Langley, R. Cheslyn, Esq. and at Tonge, S. D. Colishaw, Esq. L.</i>
Bredon — — — —	1¾	6¾	<i>At Stanton Harold, Earl Ferrers; and at Caulk, Sir Henry Harpur, bart. R.</i>
ASHBY - DE - LA - ZOUCH — — — —	5¼	12	<i>Inn—Queen's Head. The ruins of the Castle belong- ing to the Marquis of Hastings.</i>
<i>At Ashby - de - la - Zouch, on L. a T. R. to Leicester, Hinckley, and Loughborough, on R. to Burton- on-Trent.</i>			<i>At Willesley, Lieut. Gene- ral Sir Charles Hastings, bart.</i>
Measham — — — —	3½	15½	<i>Measham Field, R. Abney, Esq.</i>
<i>At Measham on R. a T. R. to Tam- worth.</i>			
<i>Cross the Ashby-</i>			

de-la-Zouch Canal, and Mease River.

Snareston	—	1½	17	<i>S. Madden, Esq. About two miles to the R. at Great Appleby, G. Moore, Esq. Gopsall Hall, the Hon. R. W. P. Curzon, L.</i>
—	—	—	—	
Twycross	—	3½	20½	<i>At Sheepy, J. Freer, Esq.; Berkswell, J. E. Wilmot, Esq.; and the Rev. Dr. Fell.</i>
Sheepy	—	2¼	22¾	

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH TO HINCKLEY, THROUGH RAVENSTONE.

ASHBY - DE - LA - ZOUCH to				
Ravenstone	—	3	3	
<i>Just beyond Ravenstone on L. a T. R. to Leicester.</i>				
Ibstock		2¼	5¼	
Nailston		2½	7¾	
Osbaston		1¼	9	<i>Osbaston Hall, J. Twisleton Esq. L.</i>
Cadeby		1¾	10¾	
<i>At Cadeby a T. R. to Market Bosworth.</i>				
Stapleton		2½	13¼	
HINCKLEY		3	16¼	

LEICESTER TO SHARWELL, THROUGH LUTTERWORTH.

LEICESTER to			
Ayleston		2½	2½
<i>Cross the Union Canal</i>			
Blaby		1¾	4¼

Dog and Gun	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
LUTTERWORTH	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
At Lutterworth on R. T. R's. to Atherstone and Coventry, and a little beyond on L. a T. R. to Mar- ket Harborough.		
Sharwell	3	15 $\frac{1}{2}$

CROXTON KYRIELL TO HINCKLEY,

THROUGH LEICESTER.

Croxton Kyriell to			Belvoir Castle, Duke of Rutland, R.
Waltham on the Wolds	4	4	Near, on L. Croxton Park, Duke of Rutland. Gode- by, E. Manners, Esq. R.
Thorpe Arnold	3	7	
MELTON MOWBRAY	2	9	Inns—Angel, Swan.
At Melton Mow- bray on L. a T. R. to Oakham, on R. to Nottingham.			
Cross the Wreck Ri- ver, and the Lei- cester Navigation			
Kirby Bellers	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Frisby	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	
Brooksby	2	15	Rotherby, Col. Dick Bur- naby, R. At Brooksby, J. Clarke, Esq. R.
Rearsby	2	17	At Gaddesby, Mrs. Ayre, R.
Syston	2	19	
About a mile beyond Syston enter the Foss Road from			

Leicester to New-
ark.

Thurmaston 2
About two miles
beyond Thurmast-
on on R. a T. R.
through Belgrave
to Loughborough

LEICESTER 3
At Leicester on R.
a T. R. to Ashby-
de-la-Zouch, on
L. to Uppingham,
Market Harbo-
rough, and Mar-
ket Husband's
— — — —

Earls Shilton 9
HINCKLEY 4
At Hinckley on R.
a T. R. to Ashby-
de-la-Zouch, on
L. to Lutterworth

21 *At Wanlip, Sir Charles*
Hudson Palmer, bart. R.
At Barkby Hall, George
Pochin, Esq. L.

24 *Inns—Blue Bell, Crane,*
Three Crowns.
Branston Hall, C. Winstan-
ley. Esq. L.

Tooley Park, — Boulby,
Esq. R. and about two
miles beyond, at Kirby
Mallory, Sir Ralph Noel,
bart. R. Normanton Hall,
George Pochin, Esq. L.

33
37

LEICESTER TO MARKET HARBOROUGH, THROUGH KIBWORTH.

LEICESTER to
Oadby
Great Glen

$3\frac{1}{2}$ $3\frac{1}{2}$

$2\frac{3}{4}$ $6\frac{1}{4}$

Kibworth

$2\frac{3}{4}$ 9

At Stretton Parva, —
Crossland, Esq. L.
Rev. Mr. Norman, R. Sir
H. Harford, bart. R.
Carlton Curlew, Rev. Mr.
Palmer, L.

MARKET HARBO-
ROUGH.

At Market Har-
borough, on R. a
T. R. to Lutter-
worth.

Cross the Welland
River and en-
ter Northampton-
shire.

5½ 14½

Inn—*Three Swans.*

Dingley, — Aldridge, Esq.
L. Gumley Hall, Joseph
Craddock, Esq. L. Lang-
ton Hall, Rev. Mr. Ord,
R.

EAST NORTON TO ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH,
THROUGH LEICESTER.

East Norton to
Tugby

1 1

Loddington Hall, C. Mor-
ris, Esq. R. and near
two miles on R. of Lod-
dington, Laund Abbey,
J. F. Simpson, Esq.

Skeffington

2 3

BILLESDON

1½ 4½

Houghton

2½ 7

Thurnby

2 9

LEICESTER

4 13

Inns—*Blue Bell, Crane,*
Three Crowns.

At Leicester on R.
the Foss Road to
Newark, on L.
T. R's. to Mar-
ket Harborough,
Market Bosworth
Lutterworth, and
Hinckley.

Cross the River
Soar

Grooby

4 17

Markfield

3 20

Hugglescote

4½ 24½

Near Ravenstone,
on L. a T. R. to
Hinckley.

John Pares, Esq. R. and
beyond it on R. Steward's
Hay and Broadgate
Park, and from Bardon
Hill, on Charwood Forest,
a beautiful prospect over
fourteen counties, Earl
of Stamford.

Ravenstone	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	27	
Near <i>Ashby-de-la-Zouch</i> , on R. a T. R. to Nottingham.			
ASHBY - DE - LA - ZOUCH	3	30	
At <i>Ashby-de-la-Zouch</i> , on L. a T. R. to Tamworth.			At <i>Ashby-de-la-Zouch</i> , the ruins of the Castle belonging to the Marquis of Hastings. About six miles on the R. at <i>Bretby</i> , <i>Bretby House</i> , <i>Earl of Chesterfield</i> . About a mile to the L. of <i>Bretby</i> , <i>Brislincot Hall</i> , <i>W. Nadin, Esq.</i>

BURTON LAZARS TO NETHER BROUGH- TON,

THROUGH MELTON MOWBRAY.

Burton Lazars to At <i>Burton Lazars</i> , on R. a T. R. to Waltham.			At <i>Stapleford</i> , <i>Earl of Har-</i> <i>borough</i> , R. and <i>Teigh</i> , <i>Rev. Mr. Postlethwaite</i> .
Cross the <i>Wreck</i> <i>River</i> .			
MELTON MOW- BRAY.	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	
At <i>Melton Mow-</i> <i>bray</i> , on R. a T. R. to <i>Grantham</i> , on L. to <i>Leicester</i> .			One mile from on R. <i>Sy-</i> <i>sonby Hall</i> , <i>Earl of Ply-</i> <i>mouth</i> .
— — — —			
Kettleby	3	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Nether Broughton	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Dalby Hall</i> , <i>Hon. Mrs.</i> <i>Bowater</i> , L.

END OF THE ITINERARY.

LIST

OF

BANKING HOUSES IN THE COUNTY.

<i>Name and Place.</i>	<i>Firm.</i>	<i>On whom they draw</i>
Hinckley..	{ Sansome & Blake- ly.....	{ Pole, Thornton & Co.
Hinckley Com- mercial Bank	{ Jervis and Lane...	{ Pole, Thornton & Co.
Leicester	{ Mansfield and Co.	{ Smith, Payne and Co.
Leicester	{ Pares', Paget, & Heygates.....	{ Pares and Co.
Leicester Bank	{ Clarke and Phi- lips	{ Pole, Thornton & Co.
Loughborough	{ Thorps and Co.	{ Hoare, Barnetts and Co.
Lutterworth ...	{ Goodacre & Buz- zard	{ Pole, Thornton & Co.

FAIRS

IN

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch.—Easter Tuesday, Whit Tuesday, for horses, cows, and sheep; September 14, November 8, for horses and cows.

Belton.—Monday after Trinity Week, horses, cows, and sheep; considerable for horses.

Billesdon.—April 23, July 25, for pewter, brass, and toys.

Bosworth Husband.—October 16, for cattle and sheep.

Castle Donnington.—March 18, Whit Thursday, September 29.

Hallaton.—Holy Thursday, and Thursday three weeks after, for horses, horned cattle, pewter, brass, and cloths.

Hinckley.—August 26, third Monday after Epiphany, Easter Monday, Monday before Whit Monday, for horses, cows, and sheep; Whit Monday in the

morning, for horses, cows, &c. in the afternoon for toys, &c. Monday after St. Simon and St. Jude, October 28, for cheese, &c.

Kegworth.—February 18, Easter Monday, April 30, October 10, holiday fair, toys, &c.

Leicester.—March 2, Palm Saturday, Saturday in Easter week, May 12, July 5, for horses, cows, and sheep; October 10, horses, cows, sheep, and cheese; December 8, horses and cows. New Fairs, January 4, June 1, August 1, September 13, and November 2.

Loughborough.—March 28, April 25, Holy Thursday, August 12, November 13, for horses, cows, and sheep; March 24, and September 25, meeting for cheese.

Lutterworth.—Thursday after February 19, April 2, Holy Thursday, horses, cows, and sheep; September 16, ditto and cheese.

Market Bosworth.—May 8, for horses, cows, and sheep; July 10, for horses and cows.

Market Harborough.—January 6, February 16, April 29, July 31, for cattle; October 19, lasts nine days, for cattle, leather, cheese, and all sorts of merchandise. New Fairs, Tuesday after May 2, ditto Midlent Sunday, and ditto before November 22, December 8.

Melton Mowbray.—Monday and Tuesday after January 17, on the Monday a shew of horses; Tuesday, horses and horned cattle; Holy Thursday, March 18, May 4, Whit Tuesday, horses, horned cattle, and sheep; August 21, ditto and swine, September 7.

Mountsorrel.—July 29, holiday fair, toys, &c.

Waltham-on-the-Wold.—September 19, for horses, horned cattle, swine, and goods of all sorts.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF LEICESTER.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

LEICESTERSHIRE is an inland county, and bounded on the north by Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire; on the east by Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire, on the south by the river Welland, and on the south west and west by Warwickshire, from which it is divided by the ancient Roman road of Watling Street from near Atherstone to the south of Lutterworth, about 20 miles. It also just touches upon Staffordshire in one point between Warwickshire and Derbyshire. Its greatest length from the south of Lutterworth, to the north part of the vale of Belvoir, is 45 miles, and the greatest breadth from Netherseal in the west, to Wymondham or Easton Magna in the east, is upwards of 40 miles; its mean diameter is about 30 miles and it contains about 816 square miles, and 522,000 acres.

NAME AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

This county takes its name from its principal town, derived from the Saxon *Ledcesterscyre*, a town or castle on the *Leir*, the ancient name of the river *Soar*. Previous to the Roman invasion, this part of the country was inhabited by the *Coritani*, but was afterwards called *Flavia Cæsariensis*. In the Saxon Heptarchy it belonged to the Kingdom of *Mercia*.

CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The climate is in general mild and temperate as there are no mountains or bogs; the highest ground in the county is some of the peaks in *Charnwood Forest*; these have the true mountain appearance of bare and barren rocks, projecting abruptly from the surface; though the elevation of these peaks is not more than 8 or 900 feet above the level of the sea, and consequently within a temperate region of the atmosphere: the whole of the country may therefore be pronounced mild and temperate.

This county has no surface soil that can properly be denominated clay or sand; it has no chalk, and its peat bogs have been long since drained, and are now become meadow soil, a compost of peat and sediment. The peat was originally formed by aquatic vegetation, and the sediment brought down by streams and rain water from the uplands. The soil is therefore divided into three classes: 1 Clay loam; 2 Sandy or gravelly loam; and 3 the meadow soil formed as above, though it is very liable to vary much in short distances. The general appearance of the county is marked with interest and variety; the hills and vales are connected by easy slopes, and with few abrupt precipices, so that almost the whole surface is practicable and useful.

POPULATION.

This consisted, according to the returns of 1811, of 73,336 males, and 77,053 females, making a total population of 150,419 persons, having increased 20,338 from the year 1801 to that period.

RIVERS AND CANALS.

This county is well watered by rivers, brooks, and rivulets; but though it has no extensive natural lake, there are several artificial ponds or pools of considerable size, particularly one at Grooby, which, according to Throsby, contains fourscore acres. There are others attached to gentlemen's seats, as fish-ponds, and also pools for the working of water mills.

The public spirit and enterprize of modern times have also well supplied the county with artificial canals for navigation, and to some of them are attached reservoirs for affording them a constant supply of water.

The principal natural river is the Soar, as the Trent can hardly be said to belong to this county, though it touches upon it from Lord Moira's park, for 5 or 6 miles north easterly, dividing this county from Derbyshire. The Soar rises between Hinckley and Lutterworth, and, passing by Leicester and Loughborough, falls into the Trent near Sawley in Derby

shire, after receiving the Wreek above Mount Sorrel, and passing near Dishley. It divides this county from Nottinghamshire, for upwards of 5 miles; it is made navigable for barges from its junction with the Trent to several miles above Leicester, a distance of 20 miles and upwards. The Swift rises in this county, and passing by Lutterworth, soon leaves it and flows into Warwickshire. The Avon only separates the south-west part of this county from Northamptonshire, as the Welland, which rises near Harborough, after passing by that town, separates the south-east part of this from that county.

The Wreek rises in the eastern part of the county, and, passing by Melton Mowbray, falls into the Soar above Mount Sorrel. The Anker rises near the source of the Soar, and, running north-west near the confines of this county and Warwickshire, falls into the Avon. Besides these rivers there are a number of springs and rivulets, on the margins of whose banks, and on those of the rivers, are often large breadths of meadow land of abundant fertility.

The Ashby Canal is navigable from Ashby Wolds to the Coventry Canal, near 30 miles in length, cut on a level without a lockage. To supply this canal with water, a reservoir has been formed upon the Wolds, when full containing 36 acres of water; this is quickly filled by the rain and melted snows of winter, and dealt out gradually in summer. This canal, with all its branches, is 50 miles long, and has 252 feet lockage. Leicester navigation, on or near the line of the river Soar, sometimes along the channel of that river, in other places carried out by lockage into a new channel; the line is from Leicester, down the Soar Valley to the Trent, with a collateral branch to Loughborough, and this latter continued over part of Charnwood Forest by canal or railway to Cole Orton Colliery, and the Cloud Hill Lime work. The Melton Canal, from the Leicester Soar navigation along the valley of the Wreek, to Melton

Mowbray and continued to Oakham, is capable of being carried to Stamford.

Grantham Canal runs from the Trent along the vale of Belvoir to Grantham, and has a large reservoir to collect winter water. This is capable of being continued to the sea at or near Boston. This canal is a great accommodation to the Vale of Belvoir, where the roads in winter were dreadful, but for several years past, lime and coal have been conveyed with ease and pleasure.

THE UNION CANAL.—This canal commences at and joins the river Soar navigation on the west side of Leicester, and for near three miles, that is to Ayleston, runs, with a few deviations, in the course of that river: from Ayleston; the whole of the line running a southerly course passes Glen Parva, Wigston, Newton, Harcourt, Wistow, and Saddington, where there is a tunnel of 40 chains; from this tunnel, making an elbow, it passes Foxton, where is another tunnel of 48 chains, passing which is the branch to Market Harborough: from the above tunnel it makes a bend, crosses the river Welland, and passes between Marston, Trussel, and Hothorp, and turns up by East Farndon and Oxendon Magna, where is a small tunnel of 13 chains, near here is also the reservoir for the summit level supplied by the Oxendon Brook. From Oxendon it goes near Kelmars, where it passes another tunnel of 45 chains, and proceeds by Maidwell, Lamport, Hanging, Houghton, Brixworth, and, parallel with that branch of the river Nen called the Northern river, it passes Stratton, Pisford, Chapel Brampton, Kingsthorp, Dallington, and on the west side of Northampton joins the river Nen navigation, and the branch of the Grand Junction canal; completing a source of 48 miles and three quarters from Leicester to Northampton, with $407\frac{1}{2}$ feet of lockage, and passing through four tunnels. The branch to Market Harborough, from the junction, is three miles and three quarters, and is level. The lockage may be more particularly specified as follows: from West

Bridge, at Leicester, where it joins the Soar to near Saddington, is 12 miles and three quarters, with 160 feet rise; from thence to near Oxendon Magna is 13 miles and a half, and level; here in one furlong is a rise of 50 feet to the summit level, which continues to the south side of the tunnel at Kilmarsh near five miles; from thence, to the junction with the Northern River at Northampton is 11 miles and three quarters, with 197½ feet fall; from thence, to the junction with the river Nen, is three quarters of a mile, and level. The proprietors of this undertaking are incorporated under the name of "The Company of Proprietors of the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire Union Canal."

OAKHAM CANAL,—commences at and joins the Melton Navigation on the south side of the town of Melton, and proceeding on the north side of the river Eye, passes Brentingby, Wiveby, Stapleford, Saxby Wymondham, Edmundthorpe, Market Overton, Barrow, Cottesmore, and Burley; and joins the town of Oakham on the north side, being a course of 15 miles; the reservoir is on the west side of the canal near Langham.

BRIDGES.

This county having no large rivers, is not remarkable for bridges; the most considerable is Cavendish bridge over the Trent between this county and Derbyshire, on the road from Loughborough and Castle Donnington, to Derby. This bridge consists of five large and elevated arches, and is well known to travellers: those over the Soar and the other small rivers have nothing peculiarly deserving notice: besides these there are a number of canal bridges built in the usual form.

ROADS.

The Roman roads in this country are particularly described in Nichol's History of Leicestershire. The Watling street enters the county at Dove Bridge, and proceeds thence to the Anker at or near Manchester, and not far from Atherstone, in a north-west direc-

tion, being the south-west boundary of the county for nearly 20 miles. The Foss, from Lincolnshire, enters the county at or near the Roman Station Vernometum; thence to Segg's hill over Thrussington Wolds, crosses the Wreke near Syston, thence through Thurmaston to Leicester, passes near King Richard's bridge, then turns to the left over the second branch of the Soar, and over the meadows to the Narborough turnpike road; continues with it to the four mile stone, then leaves it and the town and church of Narborough on the left, and continues to High Cross. The Via Devana, from Colchester to Chester, enters this county near Cottingham, and crossing the Welland passes Medbourne, near Slauston Mill, enters the enclosure and is the common bridle way; passing Gartre bush by Norton hedges, between the two Strettons close to Stoughton Grange, and over the fields to the south gate of Leicester, it joins the Foss but passes to the right of it to Grooby and Lord Stamford's house; thence leaving Markfield Windmill a quarter of a mile south-west, it passes Ashby to Burton. The public turnpike roads are generally in good repair, and being great thoroughfares, are much frequented by travellers, mail and stage coaches, and heavy carriages, but having been once made good, they are easily kept in repair at a moderate expense, to which the tolls have been fully equal without the expenses running high. The county is generally sound, and abounds with gravel; but the principal staple material for the foundation, and repair of roads is the stone of Charwood forest. It is of the granite nature, wears well, and after having been broken with a hammer into small pieces, forms a smooth road. The roads in the neighbourhood of Loughborough and Ashby, are many of them laid out upon the concave system, Mr. Wilkes having been a great advocate for that form. The cross roads, in many parts, notwithstanding much money has been expended by some persons, are very bad. Many of the private farm-ways are also very indifferent and miry in the winter season.

IRON RAILWAYS

Have been formed in this county with great spirit; these extend about 12 miles in length, from the Ashby canal to the Lount Colliery, and from Cole Orton to Ticknall and the Cloud-hill lime-works. On these rail-ways there are embankments and deep cutting to preserve the level; also a tunnel of a quarter of a mile in length, with arched bridges, for roads over the deep cutting, leading to the tunnel in the canal style. These rail-way appendages to the Ashby canal cost thirty thousand pounds.

WASTES.

Leicestershire contains no moors, mountains, bogs, or fens, or at least none of any extent. Charnwood Forest, and Rothely Plain, are properly commons or sheep walks; the former contains 15 or 16 thousand acres, and the latter 5 or 6 hundred. Charnwood though termed a forest, is quite bare and naked, containing no timber or underwood; it contains no deer: its present appearance, however, is bold and romantic, with a great variety of swells and elevations, terminating generally in bare and rugged rocks, a true mountain stone of the vitreous order. The soil is generally a moist grayish loam, in want of drainage in many places, but still worthy of cultivation and improvement. Large spaces are covered with a grassy verdure, and afford pasture to sheep and cattle.

ENCLOSURES.

The enclosing of the Vale of Belvoir, being a rich district converted to grass, has, it is urged, a natural tendency to decrease the population, as less corn is certainly raised in Belvoir than in its open state. To this it is replied, that fewer horses are kept, and less oats and beans consumed in the district. In fact, so numerous have been the enclosures in this country, that some years since the whole did not contain more than 6 or 8 open fields dispersed in different quarters, and the whole did not exceed 10,000 acres of land. The enclosures near Glenfield, and some of the villages, are of ancient date, the fences being full

of timber trees, arrived at maturity, but in small proportion to the extent of the parishes ; they are divided into yards and small pastures. The grass-land consists of head-lands and margins between the tillage land, including the low grounds or vallies. Upon the enclosure of Ashby Wolds, two entire new farms have been established some years since.

RENT AND SIZE OF FARMS.

The farms of this county are of various and almost all sizes. In the vale of Belvoir, and in many other parts, as upon the Beaumanor estate, in the farms from 80 to 100 acres, the occupiers put their own hands to the plough. Many farms of this extent have been occupied by tradesmen or manufacturers. Farms from 100 to 200 acres are occupied by the principal breeders and graziers, and sometimes by the owner. On farms of this size the greatest experiments have been made ; but the spirit of emulation has so far spread among the *smaller* farmers, that it has been observed “there is no land occupier in the county, but would be ashamed of shabby or inferior stock” Next to the improvement of live stock, and particularly sheep, is the improvement of grass-lands among the Leicestershire farmers.

The rent of farms here may be reckoned from one pound to two pounds per acre ; the average 30 shillings ; the rent of water meadow land, and good grass and other land, near towns, three pounds to five pounds per acre, and in some few instances higher. The credit given for rents is three months in hand ; thus rents due at Lady Day are paid about Midsummer, and those due at Midsummer, at Christmas.

TITHES.

The ancient enclosed land here is generally titheable ; the modern enclosures are mostly exonerated by an allotment of land, which is commonly about one-seventh part of the whole, in lieu of tithes ; however, as no doubt is entertained that the quantity of grain grown is lessened by the land being titheable, an

equivalent in land given to the tithe owner is, in all cases, for the benefit of all parties concerned; and in the vale of Belvoir this experiment has been made over and over again, to the mutual satisfaction of all parties.—The Vicarial tithes are also, in many cases, compounded for by a modus, or rent charge, in money, which is generally under real value, having been fixed in former times, and not since altered. Where the tithe is still collected in kind, Mr. Marshal states the custom to be, that of taking every tenth sheaf where the titheman sets them up, but only every eleventh, if set up by the occupier.

FARM-HOUSES AND OFFICES.

The farm-houses of this county, like those of most others, comprehend every variety of construction, and state of repair. Among respectable breeders and graziers, good substantial houses of brick and tile are to be found, or of other permanent and durable materials; but in many of the villages, the farm-houses are of inferior construction, timber and plaster walls covered with thatch; these, as they decay, are gradually removed to the midst of the occupations, and built with more substantial materials. In general, the modern enclosed parishes have the worst farm-houses, they being almost always cooped up in the villages; in the more ancient enclosures farm-houses have been built in the midst of the occupations, and with better materials.

Dishley farm-house is of ancient construction, and has probably been built at different times. The out-buildings too, seemed to have been put up at different times, as wanted. The yards and pavements are remarkable for a neat cleanliness.

COTTAGES.

This county is not famous for convenient or comfortable cottages; they often, even in the villages, consist of mud-walls and thatch; many brick houses are also covered with thatch, which is supposed to be warmer than tile or slate, unless the latter is plastered underneath; but for security from fire, and clean-

liness, brick is incomparably the best. Mud-walls are erected not only as fences for yards, court, gardens, and homesteads, but also for hovels, out-houses, &c. as fence walls they are coped with clods, and in tempering, the mud is mixed with chopped straw, or stubble, to hold it together.—Road scrapings are the best materials for these walls.

LEASES.

The leases granted in this county vary according to the nature of the soil and local customs.—They have been longer in form than necessary, and contained much useless matter; but some modern ones have been simplified and brought into less compass. However, a repugnance to grant leases under the idea of keeping the tenants more in a state of subjection, has been imputed to some gentlemen; and this has been accordingly placed among the greatest obstacles to improvement.

TENURES.

Tenures, in this county, are principally freehold, with some little copyhold; manor courts are pretty generally held, even where the copyhold tenure is extinct; and their utility is experienced upon many occasions, as the settlement of boundaries, and preventing of litigations, appointment of constables, &c. A very small proportion is church tenure, or held under life leases, and renewable between the parties upon payment of a fine.

IMPLEMENTS.

The Plough principally in common use all over the county, is the common plough of the midland counties, very generally used upon all sandy, gravelly, or loamy soils, of moderate dryness, or friability, and not being too moist or tenacious.—The ploughs upon Lord Moira's farms are not very distinct from this, except that there are no wheels: they are held by the hand and drawn by two horses abreast, guided by reins in the Norfolk and Northumberland manner. The Harrows, in general, have nothing singular in their construction. Among the rollers

the common simple one, with a pair of shafts, is still the most used. Stone rollers are not uncommon in many places; but the most remarkable roller, seen in the county by Mr. Parkinson, was the double spiked one at Lord Moira's, made at Newark. Cooke's drill machine has long been in the hands of the principal farmers; both this and Bailey's Northumberland drill are used at Lord Moira's for turnips. Of horse-hoes there are several sorts in use, to mould up beans, potatoes, cabbages, &c. Shufflers, or cultivators, are also pretty much used, as are thrashing-machines, and mills, with winnowing machines, chaff-cutters, bruisers, &c.

CARRIAGES.

The Leicestershire waggons, have either six-inch wheels, or narrow wheels, the former with double shafts, drawn double by six horses; the latter single, by four or five horses. The tumbrils have six inch, or narrow wheels. One horse covered carts, are much used for marketing by gentlemen's families, farmers, butchers, and gardeners. Gigs, or one horse chairs, are pretty much used by gentlemen and travellers, and by the better sort of farmers and tradesmen.

CATTLE.

The natural breed of cattle in Leicestershire has for some time been the long horned; and it is scarcely necessary to add, that the spirit of emulation was first raised by the late Mr. Robert Bakewell, of Dishley Farm, near Loughborough. It was repeatedly ascertained by him that the improved breed was less voracious, and kept themselves in good condition with less food, than any other of equal weight, and more particularly than the short horn of Holderness.

HORSES.

The Dishley breed of horses, originated in that of Flanders, whence Mr. Bakewell selected the most valuable he could procure, and that at very great prices. The handsomest horse I have ever seen of the Leicestershire breed (says Mr. Marshall) and perhaps the most picturable horse of this kind ever bred in

the island, was a stallion of Mr. Bakewell's named K. He was in reality the fancied war-horse of the German painters, who in the luxuriance of imagination, never perhaps excelled the natural grandeur of this horse. A man of moderate size seemed to shrink under his fore end, which rose so perfectly upright, that his ears stood (as Mr. Bakewell says every horse's ears ought to stand) perpendicularly over his fore feet. It may be said, with little latitude, that for grandeur and symmetry of form, viewed as a picturable object, he exceeded as far the horse, which this superior breeder had the honour of shewing to his Majesty, and which was afterwards shewn publicly some months in London, as that horse does the meanest of the breed. Nor was his form deficient in utility. He died in 1785 at the age of 19 years."

From many curious anecdotes related from one generation to another, from extraordinary facts preserved in the archives of some of the oldest families, and from certain old parochial registers, Leicestershire seems to have been always eminent for a useful and beautiful breed of black horses. The farmer's chief pride was in his team of horses, and it frequently carried him into very blameable lengths in bestowing that attention and expense upon his horses, which by the immutable laws of nature belonged to his family and children.

OXEN.

The Oxen reared in this county, for work or otherwise, are generally of the long-horned breed; but numbers are bought in for fattening, and sometimes worked of all breeds, though not more than a twentieth part of the team-work of the county is done by oxen.

BULLS.

The large sums for which some of the bulls bred in this county have been let out for the season, serve likewise to shew the estimation of the Leicestershire breed of cattle in the public opinion. Among other

instances, in the year 1793, Mr. Paget sold several bulls, heifers, cows, and calves, by public auction, when some were knocked down at the following extravagant prices. A bull, called, "Shakespeare," described in the catalogue as ("bred by the late Mr. Fowler) by Shakespeare, off young Nell. Whoever buys this lot, the seller makes it a condition that he shall have the privilege of having two cows bulled by him yearly"—*Four Hundred Guineas!!* A bull calf, 31 guineas; a three years old heifer, 70 guineas; others at 35 and 32 guineas each; a two years old heifer, at 84, and another at 60 guineas. Mr. Monk likewise mentions the following singular anecdote, in illustration of their value. Mr. Bakewell had let out a bull for 50 guineas for the season, but the gentleman who hired the bull dying before the expiration of the season, his executors, ignorant of the agreement, sold the animal, with other stock, at a public auction. The bull, being bought by a butcher for about eight pounds, was killed. Soon afterwards Mr. Bakewell, not knowing of the transaction, sent for it, when he was informed of the circumstance, and the executors refusing either to pay the stipulated sum, or the value of the beast, he was necessitated to seek restitution in a suit at law. His demand was 200 guineas for the bull, and 50 more for the season. The executors' plea for resisting this demand was grounded on the publicity of the sale, and the small sum that it then obtained, although "there were many farmers present and some of them thought to be men of judgment." On the trial, however, several witnesses gave their opinion, on oath, that the property was not overvalued, and after a full examination of the case a verdict was given in favour of Mr. Bakewell, "to the full amount, with costs of suit."

Though it is evident that Mr. Bakewell's plan of breeding is entitled to the highest commendation, yet it has not been without its opponents, and therefore, in justice to both parties, we shall insert the following, which, among other arguments, have been employed to depreciate its merits.

“ Mr. Bakewell's cattle, selected and reared with immense care and cost, assumed that stately and beautiful appearance which charmed a whole country, where such a sight was perfectly novel; and the cultivators, being admitted in the critical moment of the animal's bite, were equally ready either to be duped or instructed. The idea was new, and the *rationale* of it centered in the invention and judgment of a single enterprizing individual. It could not be supposed that his purchasers and disciples were first-rate judges of the true lines of animal proportion, or that they could artfully and scientifically combine the ideas of beauty and utility: for it is well known, that these are extremely variable and uncertain among our cattle-fanciers. The truth is, a large quantity of beautiful and valuable stock was distributed about the country from Dishley; and of this there was no small share, the sole value of which consisted in a sleek and bulky appearance, conferred solely by the great care and expense of the breeder. These animals having cost the purchasers, or those who hired them, considerable sums, it was a necessary consequence that their produce would be valuable in proportion: and Bakewell shrewdly observed, “ that the only way to have a capital stock is to keep the price high.” In aid of these natural and legitimate causes of the high prices of the Dishley breed, others were superadded, which, although but too common in all matters of bargain and sale, are not considered as being so candid. A sort of monopoly was created among the fraternity of improvers, who adopted all the arts, and put in practice all the tricks of jockies and horse dealers. Sham contracts and purchases were made at wonderful high prices; puffers were also regularly engaged to spirit up the buyers at auctions; and a young lord, or gentleman, with his pockets well lined, and his senses intoxicated by the fumes of improvement, was as sure to be imposed upon by these as by the gentry at New-market.—The pens of itinerant agriculturists, whose know-

ledge of live stock originated merely in their writing about it, now took up the cause and blazoned forth the transcendant qualities of the "New Leicesters." In consequence of this, the country began to consider these oracular decisions as orthodox: not so the town. The sages of Smithfield, before whom the fatted animals of all counties pass in hebdominal review, and who try the merits of all by the unerring standard of the balance, although they were compelled to purchase the commodity, never approved the *barrel-shape*, or the Dishley improvements. They objected that the original breed of Leicester sheep was more advantageous, in point of public utility than the new one; and that the Lincoln, a branch of the ancient family of the Teeswater, is, in respect to form, superior to all. They do not even scruple to assert, that the feeding of Dishley stock has never fairly repaid the cultivator. It is certain that Mr. Bakewell was not enriched, notwithstanding his unremitting exertions, the admirable economy of his farms, and the vast sums which he obtained for his cattle. But this is to be attributed entirely to the generous style of hospitality which he constantly maintained at Dishley; where every inquisitive stranger was received, and entertained with the most frank and liberal attention. The expanded heart of this man demanded more capacious means for the gratification of its generous desires; and it is evident, from his conduct, that he was ambitious rather of the honour, than the profit of his calling."

Mr. Bakewell's farm at Dishley, according to Mr. Young, "consisted of 440 acres, 110 of which were arable, and the rest grass. On this he kept 60 horses, 400 large sheep, and 150 beasts of all sorts, and yet he has generally about 15 acres of wheat, and 25 of spring corn; the turnips not more than 50 acres. If the degree of fatness in which he keeps all these cattle be considered, and that he buys neither straw nor hay, it must at once appear that he keeps a larger stock, on a given number of acres,

than most men in England: the strongest proof of all others of the excellence of his husbandry."

SHEEP.

The present sheep have been arranged in three varieties; 1, the old Leicester; 2 the new Leicester; and 3, the forest sheep. The old Leicester are a respectable breed, large, heavy, and full of wool, but strong in the bone, and somewhat coarse in the pelt.—All agree in imputing the new Leicester breed to Mr Bakewell. Their offals are small, and their profitable points large; their backs are broad and straight; their breasts full; bellies tucked up; heads small, neck pelts light, and their wool fine of its kind. The superior qualities of the Leicestershire breed, are, that they not only feed quickly fat at almost any age, even on indifferent pasture, but that they carry the greatest quantity of mutton upon the smallest bone. Their carcasses are round, their backs remarkably broad, and their legs thin. The following measurement of a ram of Mr Bakewell's, mentioned by Mr Young in his Eastern Tour, will shew the immense size to which they may be fed. At three year sold, his girt was five feet ten inches: height, two feet five inches; breadth over his shoulders, one foot eleven inches and a half; breadth over his ribs one foot ten inches and a half; and breadth over his hips, one foot nine inches and a half.

"But the great importance of this breed of sheep (observes a modern writer) will best be shewn, by stating the following facts respecting the modern practice of letting out rams for hire, by the season; which, from very small beginnings, has already risen to an astonishing height; and is likely for some time to prove a copious source of wealth to the country at large. About 40 years ago, Mr. Bakewell let out rams at sixteen and seventeen shillings a piece; and from that time, the prices kept gradually rising from one guinea to ten. But the most rapid increase has taken place since the year 1780: four hundred guineas have been repeatedly given. Mr. Bakewell, in the year

1789, made 1200 guineas by three rams ; two thousand of seven : and of his whole stock, 3,000 guineas. Astonishing as this may appear, it is nevertheless an undoubted fact. But it ought to be observed, that these great prices are not given by graziers, for the purpose of improving their grazing stock ; but by principal breeders, in order to procure a stock of rams of the improved breed, which they let out again to breeders of an inferior class. The prices given by graziers, for the sole purpose of getting grazing stock, seldom exceed ten guineas, which is considered as an extraordinary price ; five or six guineas being most frequently given."

ASSES AND MULES

Are used in many parts of the county for carrying burdens, and have also been introduced as farmer's stock. Some of the former have been constantly kept at Lord Moira's, for carrying turnips, cabbages, or other green food, driven by boys or superannuated old men. The mules are capable of travelling any length, being possessed of more hardiness, patience, and perseverance than horses, and can subsist on much coarser food ; their duration and longevity is surprising : they begin to work at two or three years old ; are in their prime at thirty, and are said to live to sixty or seventy. They have been used in the plough, as well as other draught, and make very hardy and useful hacknies.

MANUFACTURES.

There are none in Leicestershire, except that of stockings, (the people employed on them are called stockeners) so that the shepherd and husbandman engross almost all to themselves ; for as the latter supplied other counties with corn and pulse, the former sends wool into many parts of England. The whole county produces wheat, barley, peas, and oats ; but its natural and most plentiful crops, are beans, especially that part of Sparkenhoe hundred, which lies about the village, thence called " Barton in the Beans," where they are so luxuriant, that to-

wards harvest time they look like a forest. Since the commencement of last century, *cheese* has become an article of such importance, that a large cheese fair is annually held in the county town; but among the different sorts manufactured, that called *Stilton cheese* is deemed the finest, and consequently obtains the highest prices. It acquired the title of *Stilton* from a place of that name in Huntingdonshire, where it was first publicly sold by retail; Mr. Marshal, in his agricultural work, on the "Midland Counties," asserting that Mrs. Paulet, of Wymondham, near Melton Mowbray, was the *first* person who manufactured this sort of cheese; but other dairy women lay claim to priority. It is however certain, that Mrs. P. being a relation, or intimate acquaintance, of the well-known Cooper Thornhill, who formerly kept the Bell Inn, at Stilton, first supplied that house with a peculiar and novel sort of cheese, which having obtained much celebrity, was frequently retailed by the landlord at half a crown per lb. This cheese is sometimes called the English Parmesan, and is usually formed in square vats. The cheeses seldom weigh more than twelve pounds each, and they are sometimes moulded in nets, though this mode is not deemed so eligible as that of the vat. Considerable quantities of it is made on the farms about Melton Mowbray. The process of making this cheese was for some time kept a secret, though it is now pretty well known; but as it may be manufactured equally well in other dairies as in those of Leicestershire, the following receipt may not be unacceptable to those who may wish to make the experiment.

"To the morning's new milk, add the skimmed cream of the preceding evening's milking, with a proper quantity of rennet. When the curd is come it is not to be broken in the usual way of making other cheese, but it should be taken out carefully, and placed in a sieve to drain gradually. As the whey drains off, the curd is to be gently pressed till it

becomes firm and dry, and turned frequently.—After taken from the vats, it is still kept in the cloth till quite dry and firm, and afterwards repeatedly brushed. If the dairy maid should not succeed in the first attempt, she ought not to be disheartened, for in a second or third trial she may be equally successful with an experienced maker." Great care is required in order to keep the cheese sweet and good till fit for use; the precise time of keeping is not defined, as some farmers conceive that they are quite ripe in 12 months, while others contend that they ought not to be used under 18.

MINERALS.

Leicestershire is not very famous for minerals; it contains, however, mines of coal, limestone, lead, iron-stone, slate, and freestone. There are coal mines at Cole Orton, and again at the Lount, and on Ashby Wolds; the two former are ancient works, but the latter was established by the Earl of Moira, now Marquis of Hastings; the Ashby canal can take off any quantity not wanted by the neighbourhood. Bredon lime works are dug in an insulated rock of considerable extent, with a slight covering of earth, on the summit of which is built the parish church. The kilns are in the form of an inverted segment of a cone. These lime works being dug in the side of a hill, are never incommoded by water, and the stone is conveyed down, instead of up, to the kilns. In the fissures of the lime-stone at Barrow, are found many curious fossil petrifications, and fossil shells near Hinckley.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The land measure in Leicestershire is regulated by what is termed statute measure; but for running measure, as hedges, ditches, &c. and for digging, there is a customary perch-pole, or rod, containing eight yards in length, 220 such being a mile; or when squared as for digging, contain 64 square yards, 75 of these, and 40 square yards over, being an acre. The corn gallon contains $2\frac{1}{2}$ four-tenths cubic inches,

and from this the corn gallon is deduced of 268 eight-tenths, cubic inches; but instead of selling by such measure, the customary bushel of the county varies from eight and a half to nine gallons, each person believing he has a right to make what measure he pleases, provided it be as much or more than statute measure. In like manner cheese is sold, at 120lb. the hundred instead of 112lb., which is supposed and deemed a legal hundred weight. Of liquids, ale should be sold by the measure of 282 cubic inches to the gallon, but it is generally understood this measure is curtailed by the retailer, and that what passes for the full measure is only the wine gallon of 231 cubic inches.

Wool is sold by the tod of 28lb. avoirdupois, being two stone to the tod of 14lb. each; cheese and other articles are of course sold by the same weight per pound, except fresh butter, which is often made a little over the sixteen ounces. The general measure for grain in Leicester market, is supposed to be 34 quarts, or eight gallons and a half, to the bushel, and the custom of the county is said to fluctuate between this and nine gallons. Malt is seldom sold at more than eight gallons to the bushel.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

One of these, established as early as 1794, met annually on the fourth Wednesday in October, at Leicester, consisting of one hundred members; the Earl of Moira was the president. Their proper title is the *Leicestershire and Rutlandshire Agricultural Society*. Another society meet at Oakham and Melton Mowbray alternately, whose premiums are nearly similar to that at Leicester.

LEARNED MEN AND LITERATURE.

Leicestershire has justly been remarked as "biographically rich." Beaumont the dramatic writer, was born at Grace Dieu, in 1586, Bishop Beveridge was born at Barrow, in 1638, Robert Burton was born at Lindley, in 1576, he was a man of general learning. His "*Anatomy of Melancholy*" was reprinted a

number of times. George Fox, the founder of the Quakers, was born at Drayton in the Clay, in 1624, Bishop Hall was born in the parish of Ashby de la Zouch, in 1574, Bishop Latimer was born at Thurstaston about 1470, Sir Edward Leigh, Critic and Hebrew Lexicographer, was a native of this county, as were Dr. Richard Pulteney the Botanist, T. Simpson the Mathematician, the learned William Whiston, and the more orthodox Hugh Worthington. Further particulars of eminent characters will appear in the description of various places in the course of this work.

The city of Leicester prints two weekly papers, the *Leicester Journal* and the *Leicester Chronicle*.

TITLES CONFERRED BY THE COUNTY.

This county gives the title of Earl to the Townsend family, Harborough gives the same title to the Sherrards, Carleton gives the title of Baron to the Boyles, Hamilton that of Viscount to the Hamilton family. Hambleton confers the title of Baron on the Campbells; and Wellsborough that of Viscount to the Noels.

THE QUARTER SESSIONS.

The quarter sessions are held at Leicester on the 11th of January, on the 11th of April, on the 11th of July, and on October 17.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Leicestershire is divided into six hundreds, viz. East and West Gascote, Framland, Sparkenhoe, Gar-tree, and Guthlaxton; these are subdivided into 196 parishes, containing one borough, the city of Leicester, and eleven market towns, viz. Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Billesdon, Bosworth, Hallaton, Harborough, Hinckley, Loughborough, Lutterworth, Melton Mowbray, Mountsorrel, and Waltham-on-the-Wold. It is included in the Midland circuit, in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of York.

GLOSSARY OF AGRICULTURAL PROVINCIALISMS USED IN LEICESTERSHIRE.

Acre, a long measure of 4 roods.

Aigles, icicles.

Batch, the corn sent to a mill for family use.

Batch-bag, the bag containing it.

Batten, or bolting, a truss of straw.

Beggar's needle, a weed, shepherd's needle.

To Belt or burl, shearing the buttocks of sheep.

Beltings or burlings, wool so shorn.

Boar thistle, spear thistle, *carduus lanceolatus*.

Brush crop, crop sown on a stubble.

Butty, partner in a small concern.

Byslings, or beastings, a cow's first milk after calving.

Chadlock, or kadlock, wild mustard.

Camp or hogg, a hoard of potatoes.

Caps, or hacklers, hood sheaves of corn shocks.

Chapmanry, a small return on receiving money for
beasts or corn.

Clam or clammed, starved by hunger.

Cleries, draft iron of a plough.

Cock heads, a weed, knapweed, also plantain heads.

Crow flowers, crow foot *ranunculus*.

Corned, fed with grain.

Cullings, refuse, out cast of a flock.

Doglocki, belting or burling of wool.

Dog fennel, a weed, corn, chamomile.

Donk, damp.

Eavins, eaves of thatched buildings.

Elder, the udder of a cow.

Feeders, fattening cattle.

Fegg, rough dead grass.

Fettle, adjust, put in order.

Fin, a plant, *ononis*, rest harrow.

Finch backed, white backed, or streaked cattle.

Fitchet, a pole cat.

Galls, moist springy places on land.

Garner, a binn in a granary, or mill.

Gaun, a gallon measure, a small pail or tub.

Gearing, the harness of a horse, or ladder and side
rails of a carriage in harvest.

Gorze, furze or whin, *ulex Europæus*.

Gurgeons, pollard, or a sort of bran.

Heart spurn, tape root.

Hengorse, thorny rest harrow; or to hike, strike, or gore with the horn.

Hooders, covering sheaves of wheat shocks.

Hubbs, naves or stocks of whee

Kibble, to grind corn perfectly.

Kids, faggots.

Lag, a shake in timber.

Lamb hogs, yearling sheep before shearing.

Lap love, corn bind weed.

Lay, for cattle, hired pasture.

Muck, compost of dung and straw.

Pad, a traced path,

Passer, a nail passer, a gimlet.

Pen fallow, winter fallow.

Pengle, a small croft.

Piles, awns of barley.

Poothery, close cloudy weather.

Queest, the wood pigeon.

Quart of butter, three pounds.

Raun piked, dead branched tree, stag-headed.

Roarer, a restless cow, a rupture winded horse.

Rood, a customary measure of eight yards.

Ruck, a heap.

Sarver, a corn scuttle.

Seedness, seed time.

Shear hog, wether or ram, a yearling sheep.

Sough or suff, a covered drain.

Spinney, a clump or small coppice.

Stail, a handle, as a fork or mop stail.

Stalled, a carriage fast in a slough.

Stock up, to grub up.

Stodged, filled to the stretch.

Stump, a post.

Tankard turnip, the long-rooted turnip.

Thack, to thatch.

Theave, a yearling ewe after shearing.

Thoan, damp, not thoroughly dry.

Thrave, 24 sheaves or boltings.

Twitch or, squitch, couch grass.

Wall spring, a spring breaking through the surface.

Wastrell, an outcast.

Willow weed, *polygonum pezicaria*.

Welly, almost.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF LEICESTERSHIRE.

Journey from Cavendish Bridge to Husband's Bosworth, through Loughborough, Mountsorrel, and Leicester.

CAVENDISH bridge is situated at the north-western extremity of the county, over the river Trent; on leaving which we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about four miles pass through the village of KEGWORTH, pleasantly situated on a fine eminence near the Trent, over which is a good stone bridge, built at the expense of the Duke of Devonshire. The church is a handsome, light building, with a nave, aisles, transept, chancel, and tower with a spire. Some of the windows, which are large, with mullions and tracery, have pieces and complete figures of painted glass; and on the south side of the chancel there are three stone seats or stalls, ornamented with pinnacles, foliated pediments, &c.

In the year 1289, King Edward I. granted to this town the privilege of a market on Tuesdays, which is now discontinued, and two annual fairs, which are held on Whit-monday and the 10th of October. The town is situated 114 miles from London.

At the distance of about five miles from Kegworth, after passing through the village of Hatherne, we arrive at

LOUGHBOROUGH,

Which, for its size and number of inhabitants, may be considered as the second town in the county. It was in the Saxon time a royal village; and Camden says, it was the largest and best built

town in the county, next to Leicester; but it has been very much diminished by fires. The church is a large pile of buildings, consisting of a nave, side aisles, chancel, transept, and tower, the latter of which is handsome, and was built by subscription towards the end of the 16th century. In the church-yard is a Free-grammar school, which was endowed with the rents arising from certain lands, &c. left by Thomas Burton, for the maintenance of a Chantry within the church.—Here is also a Charity School for 80 boys and 20 girls.

In the place of an old cross, which formerly stood here, is a modern Market-house, or what is called the Butter and Hen Cross, which was erected in the year 1742, and is supported by eight round brick pillars. At the upper end of the market-place stands a ruinous brick edifice, called the Court Chamber, where the lord's leet is annually held; this building appears to have been erected in the year 1688, and is sometimes used as a ball-room, and at other times as a theatre.

In this town are four dissenting meeting-houses: one for Presbyterians, another for Baptists, a third for the followers of Wesley, and a fourth for Quakers.

The principal manufactures carried on at present are hosiery, wool-combing, and frame-work knitting; and the town has been greatly benefited of late years by means of a navigable canal, which communicates, with that called the Union canal, and with the river Soar; from hence is a rail-way for two miles to Broadhurst-hill, on the borders of Charnwood forest, whence it has a navigation to the lime-works at Barrow hill, near Worthington.

In the year 1564, the assizes were held at this town, in consequence of the plague being then at Leicester. This fatal disorder has likewise prevailed here at different periods, and carried off several persons; between the years 1555 and 1559, there died of the plague and other diseases 295 persons; and in

the year 1609, not less than 500 of the inhabitants died.

Loughborough is situated 108 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 1128 houses, and 5400 inhabitants.

Dr. Richard Pulteney was a native of Loughborough, and was born in 1730. Whilst at school, he formed a taste for natural history, and devoted his hours of relaxation to the study of plants. Having served an apprenticeship to an apothecary, he first settled in business at Leicester, where religious animosities retarded his progress; but he sought and found consolation in the study of botany, which he wished to render an object of much more general attention than it had hitherto been. On this subject he, in 1750, commenced a correspondence, which continued many years, in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. The "Sleep of Plants," on which he wrote two essays in that magazine, he afterwards treated more scientifically in the *Philosophical Transactions*. He obtained a doctor's degree from the university of Edinburgh, in 1764, soon after which, having ineffectually endeavoured to get an establishment in London, he commenced practice as a physician, at Blandford, in Dorsetshire, where, by his exemplary private and professional conduct, he soon acquired reputation and affluence. Having hitherto confined his literary undertakings to detached and occasional essays, in 1781, he appeared before the public as a regular author, by the publication of his "*General View of the Writings of Linnæus*," the reception of which was fully adequate to his wishes. The labours of Linnæus, and the sciences to which they related, became more correctly understood. Dr. Pulteney's work being translated into French, acquired great celebrity on the continent; and being thus encouraged, he undertook a more original and laborious performance, entitled "*Historical and Biographical Sketches of the Progress of Botany, in England, from its origin to the introduction of the Linnæan*"

System," which was published in 1790. Besides these literary labours, he furnished copious communications on the subject to various contemporary authors. Among other publications of repute, "Dr. Aikin's England delineated," Mr. Gough's edition of "Hutchins's Dorsetshire," and Mr. Nichols's "History of Leicestershire," acquired from his pen some ample and valuable materials. Having been admitted a member of many scientific societies, and exercised the medical profession forty years, he died the 13th of October, 1801, and was buried at Langton, about a mile from Blandford. An elegant tablet to his memory was erected by his widow, in Blandford church; and a good portrait is given of him by Mr. Nichols. Dr. Maton has also furnished the public with a well written scientific memoir of Dr. Pulteney, prefixed to which is another portrait of him.

Dishley, a small village about two miles from Loughborough, has been rendered important in our agricultural annals, by the successful experiments and practices of the late Mr. Bakewell, who devoting an active and industrious life to a laudable profession, which proved to him an endless source of pleasure, died in October, 1795. He was born in 1726. He was never married. In person he was tall, broad in the chest, and in his general figure, tallied exactly with our ideas of the respectable English yeoman, his manners, though rustic, were frank and pleasing.

About two miles to the north-west of Loughborough is Garendon Park, the seat of Thomas March Phillips, Esq. The present mansion occupies the site of an abbey, founded in the year 1133, by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester, for Cistercian or White Monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in which at the dissolution were 14 monks, whose possessions were rated at 186l. 15s. 2d. per annum.

In the year 1683, the lordships of Garendon and Shepeshed were purchased by Ambrose Phillips, Esq. for the sum of 28,000l. This gentleman was

knighted by King James, and was buried at Shepeshed church, in which is a handsome monument erected to his memory. His nephew, Ambrose Phillips, who settled here, after travelling over several parts of the continent, built in the park an elegant gateway, in imitation of a triumphal arch, also a circular temple to Venus, and an obelisk; he also designed the magnificent garden front of the present mansion, which was built by his brother and successor, Samuel Phillips, Esq. on the death of whose widow it passed to his maternal cousin, T. M. Phillips, Esq.

At the distance of about four miles to the west of Garendon, in a beautifully retired spot in the centre of Charnwood Forest, are the remains of the nunnery of Grace Dieu, founded by Roesia de Verdun, about the twenty-fourth year of Henry the Third, for nuns of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to St. Mary and the Trinity. This priory was included in the suppression of the smaller monasteries, which took place in the year 1536, but was, with 80 others, allowed, by license from the king, to continue some time longer; it finally surrendered, however, in the year 1539, at which time there were 14 nuns, a prioress, and a sub-prioress, whose annual revenues amounted to 83l. 16s. 6d.

The whole of Grace Dieu was a park, and is still so denominated; the outer wall of the garden, which is now remaining, formerly included an area of about two acres. The site of the priory, with its demesnes, at the suppression, was granted to Sir Humphrey Foster, who immediately conveyed the whole to John Beaumont, Esq. to whom a curious inventory of the "household-stuffe, corne, catell, ornaments of the church, and such other lyke," belonging to the priory, was made out. Among which is the following entry, respecting the number and prices of "catell.—" Item, twelve oxen 10l. eight kyne and bull-calf, 66s. 8d.; twenty-four bests in the forest, 7l.; seven calves 15s.: six horses, 66s.

8d.; thirty-four swyne, praysed at 26s. 8d.; sum of the whole, 25l. 15s." In the church were, "Fyrst, one table of wode: over the hygh alter certain images, two laten candlestyks, one lamp of laten; certain ould forms in our lady chappel, certain ould images, one particion of tymber, one lampe, and ould formes in the nunnes quere, one rode, certeen images, and the nunnes stalls; in the belhowse one cloke, certain old images, ould stoles of woode, one ould chest, one ould holy water stole of brasse, and the rosse, glasse, ieron, and pavement in the church, and the glasse and ieron in the steple, as sould for 15l."

The district called Charnwood Forest, in which this priory is situated, is a very striking feature in this county, though it is divested of forest scenery; and almost without a tree. It comprehends between fifteen and sixteen thousand acres, "three-fourths of which (says Mr. Monk) might be made very useful good land, and if enclosed would make some excellent farms. If the hills were planted, and the other parts enclosed, it would be a wonderful ornament to the county. The chief proprietors are the Earl of Stamford, Earl of Moira, William Herrick, Esq. of Beaumanor, and a few others." Of this tract Mr. Marshall has given the following interesting description.

"The Charnwood Hills are too striking a feature of this district to be passed without especial notice. Like the Malvern Hills, their style is singular; but the style of one is very different from that of the other. The Malvern Hills, seen from a distance, bear a most striking resemblance to the Atlantic Islands; towering up high and ragged; and on a near view, appear as one large mountain fragment. The Charnwood-Hills, on the contrary, seen obscurely, appear as an extensive range of mountains, much larger, and of course much more distant, than they really are. When approached, the mountain style is still preserved; the prominences are distinct,

sharp, and most of them pointed with ragged rock. One of these prominences, Bardon Hill, rises above the rest; and though far from an elevated situation, comparatively with the more northern mountains, commands, in much probability, a greater extent of surface than any other point of view in the island. It is entirely insulated, standing every way at a considerable distance from lands equally high. The horizon appears to rise almost equally on every side; it is quite an ocean view, from a ship out of sight of land; at least more so than any other land view I have seen. The midland district is, almost every acre of it, seen lying at its feet. Lincoln cathedral, at the distance of near 60 miles, makes a prominent object from it. With a good glass, the Dunstable Hills, at little less than 80 miles, may, it is said, be distinctly seen. The Malvern Hills, May Hill, and the Sugar Loaf in South Wales, are distinctly in view. Enville, the Wrekin, and other mountains of Shropshire and North Wales, are equally distinguishable: and the Derbyshire Hills, to the highest peak, appear at hand. An outline, described from the extremities of the views, would include nearly one-fourth of England and Wales. It may be deemed without risk, I apprehend, one of the most extraordinary points of view in nature."

The peculiarities of this forest are thus descanted on, by Drayton in his Polyolbion:

"O Charnwood, be thou called the choicest of thy kind,

The like in any place, what flood hath hapt to find:

No tract in all this isle, the proudest let her be,

Can shew a sylvan nymph for beauty like to thee.

The satyrs and the fawns, by Dian set to keep,

Rough hills and forests holts were sadly seen to weep,

When thy high palmed harts, the sports of boors
and hounds,

By gripple borderer's hands were banished thy
grounds."

About four miles to the east of Loughborough, on

the left of our road, is WALTON-ON-THE-WOLDS, a small market town, situated 109 miles from London, and containing 51 houses. Its market on Thursday is nearly neglected ; it has a charity school, and a fair.

At the distance of about two miles to the south-west of Walton-on-the-Wolds, is BARROW-UPON-SOAR, a large and pleasant village, containing 281 houses. Here is an hospital, founded by the Rev. Dr. Humphrey Babington, for six poor men. Barrow has for several centuries been famed for a hard blue stone, which being calcined, makes a very fine lime, and that a hard, firm, and much-esteemed cement, which is in particular request for water works, making dams, flood-gates, &c. and is exported to Holland, and other places, in large quantities. Mr. Marshall observes, " it is an interesting fact, that the stone from which the Barrow lime is burnt, is in colour, texture, and quality of component parts, the same as the clay-stone of Gloucestershire, from which the stonglime of that district is burnt ; and what is still more remarkable, it is found in similar situations, and deposited in thin strata, divided by thicker seams of calcareous matter ; affording fourteen grains of an impalpable tenacious silt, which seems to be possessed of some singular properties, forming a subject well entitled to future enquiry. One hundred grains of the clay contains 46 grains of calcareous matter, leaving 54 grains of residuum, a fine clay. Hence this earth, which at present lies an incumbrance in the quarries, is richer in calcarosity than the clay marl of the hundreds of Norfolk, with which very valuable improvements are made. In the vale of Belvoir is a similar stone, producing the same kind of lime." The Barrow stone lies in thin strata ; the first under the surface is of a yellowish colour, and below this are several others of a blue colour ; the latter strata are about six inches thick, and two feet asunder ; both sorts are dug out, piled up in the form of a cone. Mr. Young, in his

“Annals of Agriculture,” remarks, that the Barrow lime, with all its reputation, can never come into general use, from the central situation of the place, &c. but as the river Soar is now made navigable through this parish, and having a communication directly with the Trent, and thence to Liverpool, Hull, and other sea-ports, the lime-stone may be readily and cheaply conveyed to all parts of the kingdom. In making Ramsgate pier, the Barrow lime-stone was carried to that place, and there burnt, and made into mortar, by a Barrow mason: and was found to succeed, after the Dutch terras mortar had failed.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about four miles from Loughborough, we pass through QUORNDON, a large village, belonging to the parish of Barrow; here are several good houses, among which is one called Quorndon Hall, in which are some good pictures: it was lately the seat of Hugo Meynell, Esq. the celebrated sportsman, who greatly improved the place. In the year 1328 a chantry was founded here by Sir John Hamelyn, who endowed it with lands at Wymondham, in this county; it is likewise said, that a small priory was formerly established here, for in the year 1352, William de Ross died seized of the moiety of one knight's fee, in Houly, which the prior of Quorndon held. In the church are some long inscriptions to the memory of the Farnhams, who derive themselves from Sir Robert de Farnham, a companion of the Conqueror, and who had anciently a seat at this place.

About two miles to the west of Quorndon, is Beaumanor, an extensive manor, situated in a fertile vale, on the eastern side of the forest of Charnwood. This manor, with a large mansion, is the property of William Heyrick, Esq. whose ancestors have possessed the place since the year 1594, when it was purchased by William Heyrick, Esq. of London, from the agents of Robert Earl of Essex.

In the year 1621, Beaumanor was part of the

Queen's jointure, when the fee-farm rent of 34l. 14s. 9d. was paid by Sir William Heyrick. In the year 1656 it was thus described: "This ancient manor house of Beaumanor standeth, and is seated in the park called Beaumanor Park. The manor-house is moated round about with a very fair and clear moat: and a little distant from the said moat are barns and stables, and all other useful offices standing and seated; about which said building is a second moat, and round about this said ancient manor-house lieth the said park, &c." In the year 1690, the greater part of the timber trees were cut down in the park, which was at that time disparked by Sir William Heyrick; large timber trees of oak, ash, elm, and willow, are, however, still abundant; and several very large trunks of the former were cut down some years back, for the use of the Navy, measuring 22 feet and upwards in circumference. In the year 1725, a new manor-house was erected in the place of the old one. In the great hall is a curious chair, cut out of one solid oak tree, which measured 34 feet in circumference.

Returning again to our road, at the distance of about four miles from Quorndon, we arrive at MOUNTSORREL, a small market town, situated in the parishes of Barrow and Rothley. Its original name, according to Camden, was Mount Soar Hill, from its being built on a steep craggy hill over the river Soar.

The highest point of the hill is called Castle-hill, where was formerly a fortress, supposed to have been built by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. In the reign of king Stephen this castle was assigned to the Earl of Leicester, and his heirs, in consequence of articles of agreement made between Ranulph de Gernoniis, Earl of Chester (great nephew of the founder), and Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester. The castle continued in the possession of Robert Bossu till the year 1167, when it devolved to his son Robert Blanchmains, who rebelling against Henry the

Second, was dispossessed of this and his other castles. In the year 1175, at the great council held at Northampton, he was restored to the royal favour, and had all his possessions returned, except this castle, which the king retained as his own, and different governors were appointed to hold it, in that and some succeeding reigns. In the year 1215, King John invested Saer de Queney with its government, who occupied it with a strong garrison, not for his own monarch, but for Lewis the French King, whom the barons had invited to their assistance: this garrison having committed great depredations on the neighbourhood, were at length opposed and conquered by a party of Loyalists from Nottingham Castle. The castle of Mountsorrel was not, however, completely subdued, so that Henry III. commanded the garrison of Nottingham to besiege and demolish it, which was attempted, but without success. The French party and Barons, being however afterwards conquered, Henry III. took possession of it, and appointed Ranulph Blondville, Earl of Chester, its governor, who razed it to the ground, "as a nest (says Nicholls) of the Devil, and a den of thieves and robbers;" since which time it has never been repaired.

"Mountsorrel-hill (says Mr. Bray), is a rock of reddish granite, with pieces whereof the streets are paved. They are commonly called *Charleyforest-stones*, and in many places stand out bare, and are of such hardness, after being exposed to the air, as to resist all tools. Such pieces as can be got from under the ground, are broken with a sledge, and are used in buildings, in the shape in which they are broken. Many houses are built with them, and make a very singular appearance. They are often imperfect cones; and being too hard to be cut or broken, the smooth face is laid outermost in beds of the excellent lime of Barrow. These stones, from their uncommon hardness, are coveted for painters' mallets."

A curious cross, which stood at the end of Barn Lane, which separates the parishes of Rothley and Barrow, was taken down in the year 1793, and removed into the grounds belonging to Sir John Danvers, Bart. who caused a small market-house, in imitation of a pavilion, to be erected in its place. The cross consisted of a slender shaft of eight sides, fluted, and embellished within the flutes, with carved heads, quartrefoils, &c. the upper part of the shaft being terminated with a crocketed pediment and niches, supported by carved figures of angels; and ornamented at the base with rude figures with wings.

Here was formerly two chapels; but at present there is only one, which belongs to, and is subordinate to, the church of Barrow. There are also three meeting-houses belonging to Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists.

In the year 1292, a weekly market and an annual fair was granted to this town by Edward the First; the former of which is held on Monday.

At the distance of about one mile and a half from Mountsorrel, and a little to the right of our road, is ROTHLEY, a considerable village, anciently belonging to the Knights Templars. The manor-house, now called Rothley Temple, is the property of Thomas Babington, Esq. lord of the manor, which is very extensive, and invested in ecclesiastical affairs with peculiar jurisdiction, being free from all higher courts; and the lord of the manor having the power of granting licenses of marriage, it is exempt from the jurisdiction and visitation of the Bishop of the diocese." "The custom (says Mr. Nicholls) of gavelkind prevails throughout the soke: a sokeman's widow holds all her husband's real property therein, so long as she continues such; and the lord receives an alienation fine for every first purchase made by a foreigner, i. e. a non-sokeman. These several privileges are holden in virtue of a patent of the land heretofore of the Knights Tem-

plars, and afterwards of the Knights Hospitalers, who originally enjoyed it by special and express words conveyed by the patent; which, with all its privileges, was conveyed to the ancestor of the present owner. The soke of Rothley enjoys moreover, the privileges of court-leet, court-baron, &c. oyer, terminer, and gaol delivery, independent of the county."

The Church of Rothley is a large ancient pile, and in the inside are some curious old monuments, also an ancient low font, and in the church-yard is the shaft of a stone cross, the four sides of which are decorated with fanciful sculpture, of scrolls and tracery, and in the year 1722, a Roman pavement with foundations of a floor, walls, &c. were discovered near this village.

About one mile and a half to the south of the last-mentioned place is the small village of THURCASTON, famous for being the birth place of Hugh Latimer, D. D. who was born about the year 1470, and at the commencement of his ministerial career was an enthusiastic papist: but deserting the doctrines and tenets of the catholic church, became a most zealous protestant, and was advanced to the see of Worcester. In a sermon which he preached before Edward the VIth in the year 1549, he gives the following account of himself, his family, and the value of farms at that period.

"My father was a yeoman, and had no land of his own; only he had a farm of three or four pounds by the year at the uttermost, and hereupon he tilled so much as kept half a dozen men. He had walk for an hundred sheep; and my mother milked 30 kine. He was able, and did find the king a harness, with himself and his horse, whilst he came to the place that he should receive the king's wages. I can remember that I bucl'd his harness, when he went to Blackheath field. He kept me to school, or else I had not been able to have preached before the king's majesty now. He married my sisters with five

pounds, or 20 nobles apiece; so that he brought them up in godliness and fear of God. He kept hospitality for his poor neighbours, and some alms he gave to the poor; and all this he did of the said farm; where he that now hath it, payeth 16*l.* by the year or more, and is not able to do any thing for his prince, for himself, nor for his children, or give a cup of drink to the poor."

Latimer, together with Bilney, who was equal if not more zealous in promoting the Reformation, having excited the popular attention, at length so far provoked the rage of the catholics, that they were both apprehended and sentenced to be burnt as heretics, which sentence was put in execution, Bilney being burnt at Norwich, and Latimer with Ridley, at Oxford.

At WANLIP, a village situated about two miles to the east of Thurstaston, and on the left of our road, is a handsome modern house, called Wanlip Hall, the seat of Sir Charles Grave Hudson, Bart. F.R.S. It is built of brick, and stuccoed, and is fitted up, and the pleasure grounds laid out, with great taste. Here have been found a tessellated Roman pavement, several coins of Constantine, broken urns, &c.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about seven miles from Mountsorrel, after passing through the village of Belgrave, we arrive at

LEICESTER,

The largest, best built, and most populous town in the county, and said to have been erected 2500 years ago; or 850 years before the Christian æra, by King Leir, who had three daughters, Goneril, Regan, and Cordelle, the latter of whom succeeded him in his kingdom, after he had reigned 40 years. Though much credit is not to be given to accounts of such a distant period, Leir, nevertheless, has the reputation of building the great temple of Janus, which stood near the banks of the river Leir, now Soar, and wherein, it is said, he was buried. That a great temple, or heathen edifice, stood near the site of St.

Nicholas church is not improbable, foundations of strong and amazing thick walls having been frequently discovered leading from that church nearly to the banks of the river.

That Leicester was built long before the time of the Romans no writer has disputed; indeed, the variation of its name demonstrates that it has passed through a long succession of time; its first name being *Caer Leir* or *Lerion*, afterwards *Lege Cestria*, *Leogora*, *Legeocestor*, in the Saxon annals *Legerceaster*, and with some other little variations, now *Leicester*. Respecting its antiquity some writers state that there were anciently in Britain 28 flamins, and three arch flamins, who were placed in 28 cities; and that these, upon the conversion of the Britons to Christianity, about 180 years after the birth of our Saviour, were made bishops' sees. Ninnius, the monk of Bangor, who lived about the year 620, gave a particular account of these cities, one of which was *Caer Lerion*, signifying the city of King Leir, now *Leicester*.

The houses are principally disposed in three parallel streets, intersected by several smaller ones; the buildings, which may be seen from West Bridge, are mostly ancient, intermixed with a few good modern erections.

From the numerous remains of Roman antiquity which have been discovered here, there can be no doubt of its being a considerable station in the time of the Romans; and, according to Camden, called *Rata*, who in support of his opinion mentions a stone which was found near Thurmaston turnpike, on the old foss road, by some workmen digging for gravel; this stone served as a base to a large milliære, or milestone, three feet six inches high; and in circumference five feet seven inches; the inscription is reckoned the most ancient in Britain; and in the year 1781 was tolerably legible, and by filling up the abbreviations, appears to be,

“ IMPERATOR CÆSAR ;

DIVI TRAIANI PARTHICI FILIUS DIVUS,

TRAIANUS HADRIANUS AUGUSTUS,

— POTESTATE IV. CONSULATU III. A RATIS.—

Which has been thus translated,
 Hadrian, Trajanus, Augustus,
 Emperor and Cæsar, the son of the most
 illustrious Trajan Parthicus,
 In the 4th year of his reign, and the third Consulate.
 From Ratae (Leicester) two miles.

This stone was removed to Leicester in the year 1783, and from its containing the name of Hadrian, may be considered the most curious that has hitherto been found ; for the name of that emperor, says Horsley, “ is the first that occurs in any of our British inscriptions ; and we have but few of his, though he built a rampart quite across the country ; and the few erected to him are simple and short.”

The foss, or Roman road, which passes through the town of Leicester, is another work of great antiquity ; its remains are visible in many parts of Leicestershire ; it intersected the Watling Street Roman road at High Cross, in this county, and took its course thence in a right line, between the villages of Sharnford and Frolesworth, and so on towards Narborough, leaving that village a little on the left ; it then taking nearly a middle course between Alstone and Braunstone, passes by the upper end of the paddock of Westcoates, and the garden of Darnet's Hall, to Ratae, from or by Leicester, through Thurmaston, near Syston and Radcliffe-on-the-Wreke, leaving both the latter on the right, to Seg's-hill, for Newmark in Nottinghamshire.

Several Roman pavements have been found in different parts of this town, and at various distances from the surface of the earth. The most curious of which is one, which is still to be seen in a cellar near the town gaol ; it is a tessellated pavement, three or four feet square, with a rude representation of a

stag, Cupid, and another person in red and white tessellæ ; the subject of it is generally supposed to be that of Actæon, but Mr. Carte, in an account of it published in the Philosophical Transactions, thinks that it is a representation of that fable which says, that a person finding fault with Venus, she in revenge engaged her son Cupid to make him fall in love with a monster ; it consisting of the figure of Cupid with his bow drawn, and a man with one arm about a monster's neck, as going to kiss it. The monster has the head of a stag, which gave occasion to the calling it Actæon. It was discovered upon digging of a cellar at a house over against St. John's Hospital, about a yard and a half beneath the common surface of the earth. What was the extent of the whole pavement is not known ; but this figure was preserved by order of the master of the house, and is an octagon of about a yard diameter. Upon digging other parts of the cellar deeper, they found the earth under the *opus tessellatum* to consist of little else but oyster-shells, and that to a great depth.

The Roman coins which have been found in Leicester also prove its great antiquity ; the greatest discoveries of them were, in the year 1718, near the north gate ; where an earthen jug, which held about three pints, full of them, was discovered, about six feet under ground ; they were of a sort of copper, most of them about the size of a silver two-pence, and some about the size of a halfpenny ; and among them were several of Titus, Trajan, Dioclesian, Constantine, Constantius, Valentinian, Theodosius, Gratian, Arcadius, and Honorius. A fine golden coin was likewise found, a few years since, in Northgate-street, among the ruins of an old building. It was in the highest state of preservation, and weighed 4 dwts. 12 grains. Round the head was IMP. CÆSER. TRAIANO OPTIMO. AVG. GER. DAC. and on the reverse P. M. TR. Cos. VI. P. P. SPOR. which is understood to be "*Pontifex Maximus tribunicia potestate consul sext. pater patriæ Senatus Populusque Romanus.*" Roman pottery has

likewise at various times been found on the west side of the town ; and in the year 1783, as some men were digging for gravel in a farm-yard in Humberstone-gate, they discovered, about four feet below the surface of the earth, a strong leaden coffin, on which a bason, and six urns round it, had been placed. The lead of the coffin was uncommonly thick, and weighed five cwt. over which, to support the lid, were placed strong iron bars, some of which were eaten through with rust.

Besides these vestiges of antiquity, in a place near St. Nicholas church, a vast quantity of bones have been found near the surface. This spot is still called *Holy-Bones*, and is supposed to have been a place of sacrifice. Contiguous to this is a curious fragment of Roman architecture, commonly called the Jewry Wall, consisting of a mass of brick work, stones, and rubbish, with three large arches and three lesser within them. Mr. Kingsays " what remained of this wall was about 70 feet in length, between 20 and 30 feet in height, and about five feet in thickness, and from the bottom to the top it was built of alternate courses of rag stones and of brick, in the Roman manner. Each course of bricks consisting generally of three rows, though the upper one of all has only two ; and the several bricks being of unequal dimensions ; yet in general a little more or a little less than 18 inches long, and about one and a half inch thick, or sometimes a little more, and about 10 or 12, or sometimes 15 inches broad. The mortar between each row was found to be nearly as thick as the bricks themselves." The arches were turned entirely of tiles, which are bound together by a large quantity of mortar : the peculiar shape of these, with the disposition of the bricks or tiles, have excited many and various conjectures ; some writers supposing it to be a remnant of a temple of the Roman Janus, whilst others have described it as a great gateway to the Roman town.

Such are the principal antiquities of Roman Lei-

cester, and although they may appear merely trifling memorials of a warlike and refined nation, who probably possessed this station for more than three centuries, and though they may be neither beautiful nor fine, as works of art, yet they will ever prove interesting to the antiquary as vestiges of remote times, and of a particular people.

During the Saxon heptarchy, the county of Leicester, with those of Hereford, Gloucester, Worcester, Warwick, Rutland, Northampton, Lincoln, Huntingdon, Bedford, Oxford, Buckingham, Stafford, Derby, Salop, Nottingham, and Chester, was included in the kingdom of Mercia. And as Leicester was nearly in the middle of this kingdom, it must naturally have participated in the barbarous wars that were constantly occurring during the irruptions of the Picts, Scots, Danes, &c. and according to the Saxon annals, it appears, that Ethelred, King of Northumberland, being an avowed enemy to christianity, led an army to Leicester, and slew so many of the inhabitants, that they could not be numbered.

About the year 653, it is said that Penda, king of the Mercians, wishing to accomplish his son's marriage with the daughter of Oswy, king of Northumberland, caused his son to be crowned king of Leicester before he went to Oswy's court, whither he went in character and state of a king, and, contrary to his father's wishes, embraced christianity. Oswy, after the death of his son-in-law, seized the kingdom of Mercia, and during his reign he settled a bishop's see at Litchfield, which continued till about the year 737, when this see was erected, or rather transferred, to Leicester.

This town, having been desolated by the Danes, who had kept possession of it for some time, is said to have been repaired, and the walls rebuilt, about the year 900, by Ethelred, king of Mercia, and his Queen Elfrida, who was daughter of Alfred the Great. At this time the walls were greatly enlarged,

and made to enclose the castle, which before that period appears to have been on the outside of the town : but after the Norman conquest Leicester soon became part of the royal demesne, and a castle was either newly erected, or enlarged and strengthened; and the wardenship entrusted to Hugo de Grentemaisnel, baron of Hinckley.

In Domesday-book is an account of the ancient city of Leicester (the words being Civitas de Ledecestre) in the time of Edward, of which the following is a translation : “ The city of Leicester, in the time of king Edward, paid annually to the king 30*l.* by tale (every one of the value of 10*d.*) and 16 sextaries of honey. When the king marched with his army through the land, 12 burgesses of the borough attended him. If the king crossed the sea against the enemy, they sent four horses from that borough as far as London, to carry arms, or such other things as circumstances required. At this time king William has for all the rents from that city and county, forty-two pounds and ten shillings in weight. Instead of one hawk he has ten pounds by tale; and instead of a baggage, or sumpter-horse, twenty shillings. Of the mint masters he has yearly twenty pounds, every ore of the value of twenty pence. Of this twenty pounds Hugo de Grentemaisnel has the third penny. The king has in Leicester 39 houses. The archbishop of York two houses, with sac and soc; and they belong to Cherlinton. Earl Hugh has ten houses, which belong to Barhou, and six belonging to Cacheworde, and one house belonging to Locteburne. The abbey of Coventreu has ten houses. The abbey of Cruiland has three houses. From all which the king has his geld. Hugo de Grentemaisnel has 110 houses, and two churches; besides these, he has in common with the king, 24 houses in the same borough. In the same borough has the same Hugo two churches, and two houses, and four houses decayed. The Countess Judith has in the same borough 28 houses; and from the

moiety of a mill she has five shillings and fourpence. Without the borough she has six plough-lands belonging to the borough; and she has there one plough, and her homagers three ploughs. There are eight acres of meadow, and a wood six furlongs long, and three broad. The whole is worth forty shillings."

On the death of William the Conqueror, Leicester castle was seized by the Grentemaisnels, who held it for Duke Robert, upon which the partizans of William Rufus battered it nearly to the ground, in which state it continued for some time.

In the reign of Henry II. Earl Robert Blanchmains having leagued with the king's son, in his unnatural rebellion, Leicester became the chief resort of the disaffected, and stood a long siege: but the Earl and his adherents, having been defeated near St. Edmund's Bury by the king's army, and the Earl having been taken prisoner, the king's forces gained possession of the town, set fire to it in several places, and overthrew by the force of engines what the flames did not destroy; the castle, however, held out some time longer; but the garrison, being at length compelled to yield, the whole building was made a heap of ruins. This almost complete destruction of Leicester is still visible in the frequent discoveries of foundations of buildings, walls, and rubbish: the former of which are sometimes found in a direction across the present streets.

"Blanchmains, however, regained the king's favour, and was restored to his estates, but both he and his son, Robert Fitz-Parnel, engaging in the crusades, the town of Leicester was but ill-rebuilt, and the castle remained many years in a state of dilapidation. Fitz-Parnel dying without issue, the *honor* of Leicester, as part of the Bellomont estates was called, passed into the family of Simon de Montfort, in consequence of his marriage with one of the sisters of Fitz-Parnel. But the Montforts, Earls of Leicester, both father and son, were too much en-

gaged in the busy transactions of their times, to pay much attention to their property at Leicester. After the death of the latter in the battle of Evesham, the Leicester property was conferred by Henry III. on his second son Edmond, Earl of Lancaster, whose second son Henry, heir and successor to Thomas Earl of Lancaster, beheaded at Pontefract in the year 1322, made Leicester his principal place of residence, and under him and the two next succeeding earls, the castle recovered, and probably surpassed, its former state of splendour. When the Dukes of Lancaster ascended the throne, Leicester, though frequently honoured with their presence, received no permanent benefit; and though several parliaments were held there in the reign of Henry the Sixth, the castle had so far decayed in the time of Richard the Third, that he chose rather to sleep at an inn, a few evenings before his fall, than occupy the royal apartments in the castle. From this time the castle seems to have made constant progress to decay, so that in the reign of Charles the First, orders, dated the ninth of his reign, were issued to the sheriff, William Heyrick, Esq. of Beaumanor, (as appears from papers in the possession of that family) "to take down the old pieces of our castle at Leicester, to repair the castle-house, wherein the audit hath been formerly kept, and is hereafter to be kept, and wherein our records of the honour of Leicester do now remain; to sell the stones, timber, &c. but not to interfere with the vault there, nor the stairs leading therefrom." From others of the same papers, it appears that the timber sold for 3l. 5s. 8d. the free-stone and iron-work for 36l. 14s. 4d. and that the repairs above ordered, cost about 50l. Thus was the castle reduced to its present state."

The history or magnitude of this castle are but little known; but before it was dismantled it was a prodigious building, it being the court of the great Duke of Lancaster, who added twenty-six acres to it,

which he inclosed with a high wall, and called in his *Novum Opus*, now the Newark, where are still the best houses in or about Leicester; and they continue extra-parochial, as being under castle guard, by an old grant from the crown. Its hall and kitchen are still entire, the former of which is 78 feet long, 51 feet wide, and 24 feet high; and is divided by two rows of tall and massy oaken pillars, into three divisions, like the nave and side aisles of a church. Here the Earls of Leicester, and afterwards the Dukes of Lancaster, alternately held their courts. At the south end appear the traces of a door-way, which was probably the entrance into a gallery, which may have served as an orchestra for the minstrels and musicians of former days. This hall, during the reign of several of the Lancastrian princes, was the scene of frequent parliaments, and at present is used for the holding of the assizes, and other county-meetings: and from its great length, the different courts of justice being at such a distance, the pleadings of the one do not the least interrupt the pleadings of the other.

On the east side of the castle there is a castellated gateway still remaining, called the Magazine, which name it obtained in the year 1682, when it was purchased by the county, and applied to the use of the trained bands; this gateway has a large pointed arched entrance, with a small postern door-way, and communicated with an area nearly surrounded with buildings. On the south another gate-house opened a communication to a second court opposite to the southern gate of the castle. On the west was a college, with a church and an hospital, which completed the buildings of the Newark. These latter structures formed a smaller quadrangular court, having on the north side the present old, or Trinity Hospital, which was founded by Henry Duke of Lancaster, who died in the year 1361, for 100 poor and weak men, and ten able women to assist them. The walls and gates of the college, which occupied the west side,

were said by Leland to be very stately, and the collegiate church was a beautiful little structure, and once the admiration of all strangers who passed through the town. This college was not only spacious, but was liberally founded and endowed, for a dean, twelve prebendaries, thirteen choral vicars, three clerks, six choristers, and one verger: and at the Dissolution, its annual revenues were estimated at 595l. 12s. 11d. It was founded by a noble Plantagenet, Henry, created Earl of Derby in his father's life-time, and who succeeded at that prince's death to the title of Duke of Lancaster.

The buildings of the Newark continued in good preservation till the dissolution of the religious houses in the time of Henry VIII. from which period, the buildings of the college being unsupported by any fund, sunk into decay; the church, cloisters, and gateway, are entirely removed, except two arches of the vault under the former, which still remain firm and strong in the cellar of a house, lately occupied as a boarding-school.

In the neighbourhood of this castle was the famous monastery, called from its situation, St. Mary de Pratis, or Prez, since turned into a dwelling-house and garden, where is a pleasant terrace, supported by an embattled wall, with limelits hanging over the river, and shaded with trees.

The Abbey, which was situated about three quarters of a mile from the town, was formerly of great local importance; and besides 36 parishes in and about Leicestershire, it had lands, privileges, &c. in most of the manors in this and many other counties; this place likewise supported nearly the whole of the poor of Leicester and its neighbourhood; and was on pressing occasions subsidiary to the king. Several kings of England were also entertained and lodged here, on their excursions to and from the north; particularly Richard II. and his queen, with their retinue, amongst whom were the duke of Ireland, earl of Suffolk, archbishop of Canterbury, and seve-

ral other great personages, all of whom were sumptuously entertained and lodged at this house.

The death of the great and magnificent Cardinal Wolsey happened at this abbey, on the 29th of November, 1550, on his journey from York to London.

He had just before been stripped of his dignities, and his pride wounded by his royal master, who had before loaded him with riches, honour, and power, unequalled by the first of princes. He was so weak and depressed when he came to the gate leading to the abbey that he could only thank the abbot and monks for their civility, and tell them that he was come to lay his bones among them. He immediately took to his bed, and died three days afterwards. It was here, while surrounded by the listening monks, that he pronounced that memorable sentence, "If I had served my God as faithfully as I served the king, he would not thus have forsaken my old age."

This abbey, of which there is scarcely any remains, is supposed to have been founded in the year 1143, by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester, who being advanced in age, became one of the regular canons on his own foundation, and continued here in penance and prayer, till the time of his death.—It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the Suppression, was estimated to expend 1062*l.* per annum.

In the church of the Grey Friars House, which was situated near St. Martin's church, King Richard the Third, who was killed in the battle of Bosworth, was interred; but his bones being afterwards disturbed, his coffin was converted into a trough for horses to drink out of, at the White Horse Inn here; it has however been destroyed some years.

Wigston's Hospital was founded in the reign of Henry VI.; it is a regular building, with separate apartments for the members of the hospital; who consist of a master, confrater, 12 men and 12 women, by the rules of the house all single.

The Hospital of St. John the Baptist was given by Queen Elizabeth to the corporation; it was after

wards used as a wool hall, but at the latter end of the reign of James the First, a benefaction was raised of seventeen pounds a year, and six poor widows placed in it.

Bent's Hospital was endowed in the year 1703 by a Mr. Bent, alderman ; it supports four widows. Simond's Hospital, Countess's Hospital, and Spittle Houses are places of inferior note.

At the time of the Norman Conquest there appears to have been no less than six churches in Leicester ; and in the year 1220, according to a manuscript in the Cottonian Library, the following nine churches were standing here : St. Mary's, St. Nicholas's, St. Clement's, St. Leonard's, All Saints, St. Michael's, St. Martin's, St. Peter's, St. Margaret's, and also a chapel of St. Sepulchre. At present there are but five.

St. Mary's de Castro (says Mr. Carte, in his manuscripts in the Bodleian Library) " was parochial at the same time that it was collegiate. The south aisle of it was built long before the main fabric, as it is said, by John of Gaunt, and is supposed to be as large or broad as any side aisle in England, being thirty-three feet broad within the walls. To the west end of the north side of the church joins the house belonging to the porter of the castle, which has a lodging chamber within the walls of the church, which is said not to be in the parish. From this church there used to be a solemn procession every Whitsun Monday to St. Margaret's Church, in which the image of the Virgin Mary was carried under a canopy borne by four persons, with a minstrel, harp, or other music, and twelve persons, representing the twelve apostles, each of which had the name of the apostle whom he represented written on parchment fixed on his bonnet, and fourteen persons bearing banners, the virgins in the parish attending. When they came to St. Margaret's, among other oblations made by them, there were two pair of gloves,

whereof one is said to be for God, the other for St. Thomas of India."

This church, which is distinguished by the appellation of *infra*, or *juxta castrum*, is a large but irregular pile of building, and composed of various styles of architecture. The interior is spacious, and on the south side of the nave is a singularly large semicircular arch, having a span of thirty-nine feet. At the east end of this aisle was a chapel or choir, held by a guild or fraternity, called the Trinity Guild; which was founded in the time of Henry VII. by Sir Richard Sacheverele, knt. and the good Lady Hungerford. At the west end of the church is a handsome tower, surmounted by a lofty and elegant spire; which has been twice nearly demolished by storms; the latter of which happened in the year 1783, when the lightning, striking the upper part of the steeple, nearly split it from the top to the bottom; so that the whole was obliged to be taken down, and a new one erected at the expense of 245l. 10s. besides the value of the old materials.

St. Nicholas's Church, which is supposed to be the oldest in Leicester, stands contiguous to the Jewry wall, and appears to have been partly constructed with the bricks, tiles, &c. taken from the fallen parts of that building. It is a plain Gothic building, and formerly consisted of three aisles, but about the year 1697 the north aisle being ruinous was taken down; so that at present it consists of only a nave and south aisle, with a square tower at the west end, the latter of which has semicircular arches, and arcades near the top, the whole exhibiting the Saxon style of architecture.

St. Clement's, which formerly stood near the north gate of the town, has long since been destroyed, as has also the one dedicated to St. Leonard, which stood near the north bridge; the church-yard of the latter is, however, still used as a burial place to the parish.

The Church of All Saints is a small modern

structure, built of free-stone, and consists of a nave, and two aisles, all nearly of the same length. On a wooden tablet in this church is an inscription to the memory of William Norice, stating that he is

———— Dead and gone,

Whose grave from all the rest is knowne

By finding out the greatest stone.

This stone is a large rough pebble; and William Norice appears to have been twice mayor of this town, and “gave twice fifteen groats yearly to All Saints poore,” also five marks yearly to the second master of the free-school. He had three wives, and died in the year 1615, in his 97th year.

Here is likewise the following singular epitaph to the memory, and allusive to the profession, of Joseph Wright, a gardener :

“My Mother *Earth*, though mystically curst,

Hath me, her son, most bountifully *nurst* ;

For all my pains, and *seed* on her bestow'd

Out of which store that I of her receiv'd,

My painful wantfull brethren I reliev'd ;

And though this Mother, I full well did love,

I better lov'd my father that's above :

My mother feeds my body for a space,

My soul for aye beholds my father's face.”

St. Michael's Church was situated in what are called the Back Lanes, but was totally demolished about the year 1400, so that the particular place where it stood is not known, and the parish belonging to it has long since been united to All Saints.

St. Martin's is one of the largest, and esteemed the principal church in the county. It is a large old building, consisting of a nave, three aisles, and a tower, with a lofty crocketed spire. The chancel, which belongs to the king, was built in the time of Henry V. at an expense of 34l. The bishops of the diocese, and the judges of assize, attend divine service here; and in the south aisle, the archdeacon of Leicester holds his court. Within it were formerly two chapels, or oratories, and before the dis-

solution, it contained three altars. In this church was held St. George's Guild, a fraternity, which was invested with peculiar privileges, and annually held a sort of jubilee in the town called "the riding of St. George." This, (says Mr. Carte) "was one of the principal solemnities in this town, as may appear by the express mention of it in an order made at a common hall, 17th Edward IV. which enjoins all inhabitants summoned to attend the mayor to ride against the king (so it is expressed), or for riding the George, or any other thing, to the pleasure of the mayor, and worship of the town. In the 14th of Henry VII. it was ordered that every one of the corporation should pay towards the upholding St. George's Guild; they who had been chamberlains 6s. and such as had not been so, 4s. yearly at least; and 15th Henry VIII. the masters of the guild having neglected the riding of the George, an order was made enjoining them to do according to ancient custom between St. George's day and Whitsunday, on pain of forfeiting 5l." In this church was founded also Corpus Christi Guild, which was the chief guild in the town, and contributed largely to the public charges, in the purchase of charters, &c. and the masters of it had great interest in the government of the town, having power with the mayor to levy penalties on the mayor's brethren for their misdemeanors; and, upon the mayor's neglect, they were empowered to levy them upon him.

There is a remarkable epitaph in this church, shewing, that Mr. Herric, who died in the year 1589, aged 76, lived in one house with his wife 52 years, and in all that time buried neither man, woman, or child, though they were sometimes twenty in family. And the widow, who died in 1611, aged ninety-seven, saw before her death 143 children, grand children, and great grand children.

In the marriage register of this church is also a singular entry of the names of Thomas Tilsey and Ursula Russel, the first of whom being "deoffe" and

also "dombe," it was agreed by the bishop, mayor, and other gentlemen of the town, that certain signs and actions of the bridegroom should be admitted instead of the usual words enjoined by the protestants' marriage ceremony. "First he embraced her with his armes, and tooke her by the hande, put a ringe upon her finger, and laid his hande upon his harte, and upon her harte, and helde up his handes towards heaven; and to shew his continuance to dwell with her to his lyves ende, he did it by closing of his eyes with his handes and diggine out the earthe with his fete, and pullinge as though he would ringe a bell, with diverse other signs approved."

St. Peter's Church, being ruinous, the corporation, on the 7th of April, in the 15th of Elizabeth, purchased of the queen the materials of it to build a school house; and in the 33rd year of the same reign, it was agreed that this parish should be united to All Saints, by the minister of which the church-yard is enjoyed as an orchard.

St. Margaret's Church, according to Leland, was "the fairest church in that place, which once was a cathedral church, and near which the Bishop of Lincoln hath a palace, whereof little yet standeth." This church consists of a nave, side aisles, chancel, and a handsome tower, and was annexed as a prebend to the college of Lincoln by the bishop of that diocese, at the time when the other churches of the town were given to the abbey. The interior is handsome, the nave and side aisles being supported by Gothic arches, whose beauty and symmetry are not concealed by galleries. The walls are adorned with several elegant modern monuments, and in the north aisle is an alabaster tomb to the memory of Bishop Penny, who was many years abbot of the neighbouring monastery of St. Mary de Pratis; and in the church-yard the military trophies of a black tomb commemorate Andrew Lord Rollo, who after many years of severe and dangerous military service,

died at Leicester, as the inscriptions informs us, on his way to Bristol, for the recovery of his health, in the year 1765.

The Chapel of St. Sepulchre stood at the extremity of the liberties of the borough to the south, near where the present Infirmary stands.

Besides the above churches of the establishment, there are several chapels or meeting-houses, belonging to different sects of dissenters, the principal of which is called the Presbyterian, or Great Meeting-house, erected in the year 1708; and has seats for the accommodation of 800 persons: opposite this is another chapel, appropriated to a sect denominated Independents; near which is another religious edifice, built in the year 1803, by a society, known by the title of Episcopalian Baptists.

The Free School, according to Leland and Carte, was founded by Thomas Wigton, a prebendary of the collegiate church; it was however considerably augmented and newly established in the year 1573, at which time a new school-house was erected, towards the building of which the corporation, as individuals, were the principal contributors. Several other public schools are established in this town, the principal of which is the Green Coat-School, founded by Alderman Gabriel Newton; it was built in the year 1782, for the education of 35 boys. St. Mary's School was built by voluntary subscription in the year 1785; it educates 45 boys and 35 girls. St. Martin's School, built and supported by voluntary subscription, was erected in the year 1791, at the expense of 950*l.*; it educates 35 boys, and 30 girls.

The Infirmary, which was built in the year 1771, by voluntary subscription, and open the same year, is a plain square building, with two uniform wings, and is calculated to admit, exclusive of the fever ward, 54 patients. Adjoining the Infirmary is an Asylum for the reception of indigent lunatics, for the foundation and support of which Mrs. Topp left

a legacy of 1000*l.* and a Mrs. Ann Wigley bequeathed 200*l.* for the same benevolent purpose.

The Assembly-room is a handsome modern building, erected from the designs of Mr. Johnson, architect; and originally intended for a coffee-house, tavern, &c. but it is now solely appropriated to assemblies and a library. Adjoining this building is a convenient and commodious Theatre, which was likewise built by Mr. Johnson, and was afterwards under the management of the Birmingham and Manchester theatres.

A few years since a beautiful public walk was made here by a spirited subscription; the ground was given by the corporation. It forms a line, almost a mile in length, with an easy curve or two, extending in a south-east direction from the town, and from different stations many pleasing views are obtained of the town, the meadows, and the surrounding country.

The County Gaol was built in this town in the year 1791, at the expense of 6000*l.* which were raised by a county rate. It occupies the site of an old prison, and is erected after the plan recommended by Mr. Howard, with solitary cells, &c. In the front elevation are sculptured in bold relief, the cap of liberty, and the Roman fasces, encircled with heavy chains, under which, in large letters, is the name of the architect, George Moneypenny, who was unfortunately doomed to be one of the first prisoners for debt.

The Town Gaol, which is a commodious stone building, was designed by Mr. Johnson, and executed by Mr. Firmadge. On taking down the old gaol, in the year 1792, for the purpose of erecting the present, the remains of the chapel of St. John, which was supposed to have been destroyed during the contest between Henry 2d. and his son, was discovered, from the ruins of which, a regular semicircular arch of stone, with ornaments of chevron work, was taken, and preserved by Mr. Throsby, the industrious historian of this town.

The Leicester Mint was formerly situated near the North Bridge, and the series of coins which have been collected prove, that a regular succession of coinage was produced here, from the reign of the Saxon king Athelstan down to Henry 2d. "The *Monetarii*, or governors of the mint, were entitled to considerable privileges and exemptions, being *Stockmen*, or holders of land in the soc, or franchise of a great baron, yet they could not be compelled to relinquish their tenements at their lord's will. They paid 20*l.* every year, a considerable sum, as a pound at the time of the Conquest contained three times the weight of silver it does at present. These pounds consisted of pennies, each weighing one *ora*, or ounce, of the value of 20*d.* Two-thirds of this sum were paid to the king, and the other third to the feudal baron of Leicester. The Leicester coins of Athelstan and Edmund I. have only a rose with a legend of the king's name, that of the moneyer, and Leicester : from Ethelred II. they bear the impress of the royal head and sceptre, with the same style and legend unchanged. In the series of Leicester coins, which has been engraved with accurate attention in the valuable work of Mr. Nichols, the triangular helmets, uncouth diadems, and rudely-expressed countenances of our Saxon sovereigns, exhibit, when opposed to a plate of Roman coinage, a striking contrast to the nicely-delineated features of the laurelled Cæsars. In no instance of comparison does the Roman art appear more conspicuous. The great quantity of coins of that scientific people, which have been found at Leicester, is an additional testimony of its consequence as a Roman town : these, unfortunately, upon being found at different periods, have passed into various hands ; and although some few gentlemen have made collections, yet it is to be regretted, that by far the greatest part of the coins have been taken from the town. Had those found in the last century been thrown together into one cabinet, Leicester might have exhibited at this time

a respectable series of Roman coinage, both in brass and silver, from the Emperor Nero down to Valens.

In an open square, called the Market-place, is a plain building, known by the name of the Exchange, where the town magistrates hold their weekly meetings, and transact public business: it was built in the year 1747.

The market-place has been fashioned by chance, and forms an awkward L, and is rather small for the abundance of business transacted in it on the market day, which is on Saturday; besides which, Leicester has seven annual fairs, upon a very large scale, particularly in the articles of cheese, sheep, and cattle.

The corporation of Leicester consists of a mayor, recorder, steward, bailiffs, 24 aldermen, 48 common-councilmen, a town clerk, &c.; and its freemen are toll-free in all the markets and fairs in England. It sends two members to parliament, which privilege commenced in the 23rd of Edward I.—The right of election is in the freemen and inhabitants paying scot and lot, amounting to about 1650; but the manufacturing interests has of late excluded every other influence whatever in this borough.

Leicester is situated $96\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London, and contains, according to the late returns, 4604 houses, and 23,146 inhabitants. It is supplied by canal navigation, with coals, deals, and groceries, &c. and by which it communicates with all the principal towns in England.

At Leicester, besides an Agricultural, there is a Literary Society instituted, for establishing a permanent county library in Leicester. The books are ordered, and the society is conducted, by a committee chosen annually. Subscription, one guinea yearly, or ten guineas for life. The annual meeting the last Friday in June.

The valuable mineral spring, which was discovered near Leicester, in the year 1787, has been rendered of the highest utility by the persevering

public spirit of Mr. J. Nichols, the proprietor. Its medicinal efficacy is similar to the waters of Harrowgate and Kedleston. Its beneficial effects have been repeatedly proved in diseases of the skin; in obstructed glands; in habitual costiveness, and the piles; and in some particular complaints of the stomach and bowels. Poor persons, recommended by any of the faculty, may drink the waters gratis.

The following is a table of the most remarkable events, which have happened respecting Leicester:

	<i>Years.</i>
The town built by King Leir	<i>Before Christ</i> 844
Walls built	<i>Since Christ</i> 914
Walls destroyed	1173
Abbey founded	1143
Charter granted	1207
First mayor	1258
Trinity hospital founded	1332
Parliaments held in Leicester, 1400, 1421, and	1425
Wigston's hospital founded	1490
Cardinal Wolsey died here	1530
Sir Thomas White left 10,000 <i>l.</i> to the freemen	1536
A great plague	1610 and 1611
Besieged by Charles I.	1645
Corporation charter taken away	1682
restored	1687
The Exchange built	1748
The Infirmary built	1771
New Walk formed	1785
County Gaol built	1791
Leicester Navigation-Bill obtained	1792
Town Gaol built	<i>ibid.</i>

The government of the town is entrusted to a mayor, recorder, steward, bailiff, twenty-four aldermen, forty-eight common-councilmen, town clerk, &c. The combing and spinning of wool and manufacturing it into stockings and other hosiery articles, is the chief business of Leicester and its neighbourhood. The goods are mostly of the coarse kinds, and are partly taken off by home consumption, partly

exported. The benefit of communication has within these few years been much extended, by making its river navigable by the assistance of canals to the Trent, &c.

On leaving Leicester, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about four miles, pass through WIGSTON MAGNA, a large village, distinguished by having two churches with steeples, though one of them being disused is falling into decay. There is likewise a meeting house for Presbyterians, who are very numerous here, as also an hospital founded by a Mrs. Clarke of Leicester, for three poor men, and as many women, who are provided with habitations, a weekly allowance of money to each, and an annual gift of coals. The family of the Davenports formerly possessed a large estate in this lordship; and in the neighbourhood is a piece of moated ground, with some ruins of walls, where this family had once a mansion. During the civil wars here was a temporary prison, at a place called the Gaol Close, to which the prisoners were removed from the county gaol at Leicester. Several fragments of antiquity have been discovered here, among which were parts of a fibula, a ring, pieces of a glass urn, pottery, a spear head, and helmet; and in the lime and gravel pits here, several petrifactions have been found.

Wigston is a large village, about four miles from Leicester, and is distinguished by having two churches with steeples, though one of them has long been disused. Some fragments of antiquity have been found here.

At the distance of about five miles from Wigston, is the hamlet of SHEARSBY, where there is a salt spring, the waters of which have proved serviceable, in some scorbutic complaints.

A little to the south-west of the last-mentioned place is the village of KNAPTOFT, where the traces of an ancient camp are still visible; as also some remains of an old manor-house, at one angle of which

was a circular embattled tower. The church here is in ruins.

About five miles beyond Shearsby we arrive at HUSBAND'S BOSWORTH, a village pleasantly situated in a fertile part of the county, 83 miles from London, and containing about 200 houses.

*Journey from Harrington Bridge to Sheepy; through
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.*

Harrington bridge is situated at the northern extremity of the county, over the river Soar, on the road leading from Nottingham. On leaving this bridge we proceed in a south-westerly direction, and at the distance of two miles and a half pass through CASTLE DONNINGTON, formerly a market-town, but now a large village, in which are the remains of an hospital, and a small fragment of the castle with the vallum. The church is a spacious structure, having a large chancel, also a lofty steeple; within it is a fine altar monument of alabaster, with the statues of a man in armour, and a woman. This village is situated 118 miles from London, and contains upwards of 400 houses.

About one mile to the south-west of the village, and on the right of our road, is Donnington Park, the seat of the Earl of Moira. From the time of the conquest this manor continued the property of the Barons of Haulton, till the year 1310, when it was conveyed in marriage to Thomas Plantagenet, Earl of Lancaster, Leicester, and Derby; in the year 1594, it became the property of the Hastings' family by purchase; and in 1789, was bequeathed, by Francis, the last Earl of Huntingdon, to Francis, Lord Rawdon, now the Marquis of Hastings, who, besides having made several very extensive and important improvements on the estate, has erected a noble mansion of stone, on a large scale, after the designs of Mr. Wilkins, of Cambridge, which is thus described in the New Vitruvius Britannicus: "The present house, which has been lately erected

by his Lordship, stands on a plain, formed by the union of three delightful vallies, which radiate from the spot in the direction of east, south, and south-west. The situation is, notwithstanding, considerably above the general level of the country. The style of the front and entrance-hall is Gothic, adopted by a plan suggested by his Lordship, as most fitting to the scenery of the place. The house is equally convenient for the residence of either a large or small family ; perhaps few are better calculated for the purposes of exercising the rites of hospitality, in which the noble possessor vies with his feudal ancestors. The principal rooms, namely, the Gothic-hall, 24 feet square, the dining-room 48 by 24 feet ; the anti-chamber and the drawing-room, 40 by 24 feet, have a southern aspect ; the library, 72 by 26 feet, looks towards the west ; and the breakfast parlour towards the east. On this side a wing extends in which is the chapel, 58 by 20 feet, and it is so situated as to screen the offices. The various offices on the ground-floor on the north side are very little below the common level of the ground, although the vaults under the south side are entirely sunk, and are appropriated to the butler's department." Several of the apartments in this elegant mansion are decorated with pictures, many of which are interesting, as specimens of art, and as portraits of illustrious characters. Here are also some curious specimens of painted glass, part of which was brought from the old chapel of Stoke Pogeis, in Buckinghamshire.

Among the portraits are those of King Edward the Fourth ; George, Duke of Clarence, his brother ; an half-length in mail armour, Cardinal Pole, Anno 1557 ; Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, 1544, aged 64, by Holbein ; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester ; Jane Shore ; Jaqueline, Duchess of Hainault, who was married to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. This is described by Mr. Nichols, as a curious and remarkable portrait ; Francis, second Earl of Hun-

tingdon, Knight of the Garter, half-length; Henry, fifth Earl of Huntingdon, in his Coronation Robes, by Vansover, 1614; Theophilus, seventh Earl of Huntingdon, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, half-length; Theophilus, ninth Earl of Huntingdon, by Le Bell, whole length; Henry Hastings, second Lord Loughborough, by Cornelius Jansen; Dr. Harvey, by Vandyck; Sir Daniel Heinsius, by Mirevelt; Sir Thomas Wyatt; Sir John Chardin; Henry Lord Loughborough; Sir Godfrey Kneller; W. Prynne, author of *Histriomastix*, 1632; Alexander Pope; Edmund Waller; Samuel Butler; Duke of Berwick, natural son of James the Second; the Hon. Robert Boyle, by Sir P. Lely; Dean Swift; George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, temp of Charles II. by Sir P. Lely; Algernon Percy, Earl of Northumberland, by Dobson; Earl of Derby, temp of James I. by Cornelius Jansen; Earl of Warwick, temp of Charles I. by Vandyck; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, temp of Elizabeth, by Porbus. Besides these there are some miniature heads by Isaac Oliver, Hoskin, and Cooper. The principal apartments are also ornamented with some select cabinet pictures by old masters. In the Breakfast Room are two landscapes by Beschay; Dogs and Game, by Fitt; Apollo and Daphne, by Romanelli; Battle of the Boyne, Old Wycke; a long narrow picture full of bustle; Head of Cromwell; two small pictures of the Nativity and Transfiguration, by Zuccarelli; Storm at Sea by Salvator Rosa; Landscapes by Bourdon, De Vadder, and Van Goven; Sea Piece, by Senes; a Hungarian Camp and Battle Piece, by Wouvermans; a Port in Holland, by Stork.

In the Ladies' Drawing Room—Waterfall, by Watteau; Virgin and Child, Pietro Perugino; Infant Christ asleep, Elisabetta Zerani; Water-Mill, Paterre; Sea Port, Bartolomeo; Dutch Sea Port, Stork; Christ and the Woman of Samaria, Ludovico Caracci; Holy Family, Palma Vecchio; Aaron and the Golden Calf, Eckhout; two Landscapes, Breu-

ghel; two Landscapes, Mams; Sea Port, Occhiali; two pictures of Boors, Teniers; two Views in Rome, Studio; Magdalen's Head, and another of St. John's, Guido; Venus, by Titian; a Painter drawing a Naked Woman, Schalken; Landscape, Salvator Rosa; a Philosopher and Huckster, two small pictures, by Gerhard Douw; Nymphs and Satyrs, Reubens and Breughel; Seamen Drinking, Adrian Vander Werf; Sportsmen, Peter Wouvermans; Marriage of St. Catherine, after Corregio; two Landscapes, by Brueghel; Venus and Satyr, a Sketch, Titian; Mater Dolorosa, Carlo Dolce; Landscape, Asselyne; Peasants, Bamboccio; Virgin and Child, Vanucci; Poetry and Painting, Murillio; Dutch Boors, Ostade; a Philosopher, Quintin Matsys; Portrait of the Conde Duque D'Olvarez, Velasquez; Sea Storm, Tempesta; Landscape, Gasper Poussin, in his best style; another, Finding of Moses, Francisco Milè; a Frost Piece, a Night Piece, and a Sea Port, by Grevenbroek.

The Park abounds with fine old majestic oaks, and other forest trees; and the grounds are alternately thrown into bold swells, and sunk into sweeping vallies; and near the northern extremity of the grounds is a bold craggy precipice, with hanging woods, called Donnington Cliff, a scene much admired for its romantic and wild features.

At the distance of about four miles from Castle Donnington, after passing through the hamlet of Isley Walden, we arrive at BREDON, a considerable village, situated on the base of a high lime-stone rock, on the summit of which the church stands, which is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Hairduff, and was given by Robert Ferrers, Earl of Nottingham, about 1144, to the monastery of St. Oswald, at Nostell, in Yorkshire, upon which a cell of Black Canons was established here, subordinate to that monastery, consisting of a prior and four religious, whose revenues, at the Dissolution, amounted to 24l. 10s. 4d. per annum, when it was sold by Henry

VIII. to Francis Shirley, Esq. as a burial place for himself and successors, to whose memory are several fine monuments; and the porch is decorated with several small fragments of ancient sculpture, probably taken from the older church. The village of Bredon is situated 120 miles from London.

“Whoever (says Dr. Darwin) will inspect with the eye of a philosopher the lime mountain of Bredon, on the edge of Leicestershire, will not hesitate a moment in pronouncing that it has been forcibly elevated by some power beneath it; for it is of a conical form, with the apex cut off; and the strata, which compose the central parts of it, and which are found nearly horizontal in the plain, are raised almost perpendicularly, and placed upon their edges, while those on each side decline like the surface of the hill; so that this mountain may well be represented by a bur made by forcing a bodkin through several sheets of paper.” The lime produced from this rock is of a singular quality, and is occasionally used as manure on the adjacent lands; and here are six or seven kilns generally kept burning; the quarries are between 30 and 40 feet high, each presenting a cliff of heterogeneous rock, whence the stone is obtained by blasting.

Two miles to the south-west of Bredon, and one to the right of our road, is STANTON HAROLD, the seat of the Shirley family. The mansion house, which stands in a fine park of 150 acres, in which is a spacious lake, adorned with a handsome stone bridge, is a large pile, composed of brick and stone; its principal front being ornamented with pilasters and Doric columns in the centre, surmounted with a pediment. The interior is spacious, and many of the rooms are decorated with pictures, &c. and in the library, which is 72 feet by 18, is the complete works of Confucius, the Chinese philosopher, in sixteen quarto volumes. Here is likewise a curious old bugle horn, formed from an elephant's tooth,

and ornamented with representations of various field sports.

Adjoining the house is the Church, or Chapel, consisting of a nave, aisles, chancel, and tower; within it are some monuments, with long inscriptions, commemorative of the names, titles, and characters of several of the Shirley family, who are interred here.

The family of Ferrers (says Burton) is of great antiquity, and descends from an "ancient Saxon line, long before the Conquest." After the Norman Conquest, Staunton was given to Henry de Ferrariis; but in the year 1423, it came into the Shirley family by the marriage of Margaret, sole heir of John and Joan de Staunton, with Ralph Shirley, Esq.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about five miles from Bredon, we arrive at ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, a small market town, pleasantly situated in a fertile vale, on the skirts of Derbyshire, on the banks of a small river, called the Gilwiskaw, over which is a handsome stone bridge. The original name of this town was simply Ashby, but it acquired the addition of de-la-Zouch, to distinguish it from other Ashbys, from the Zouches, who were formerly lords of this manor, which after the extinction of the male line of that family, in the first year of the reign of Henry the Fourth, came to Sir Hugh Burnel, knight of the garter, by his marriage with Joice, the heiress of the Zouches. From him it devolved to James Butler, Earl of Ormond and Wiltshire; who being attainted on account of his adherence to the party of Henry the VIth. it escheated to the crown, and was, in the first year of Edward the Fourth, granted by that king to Sir William Hastings, in consideration of his great services; he was also created a baron, chamberlain of the household, captain of Calais, and knight of the garter, and had license to make a park and cranelate, or fortify several of his houses, amongst which

was one at this place, which was of great extent, strength, and importance, and where he and his descendants resided for about two hundred years. It was situated on the south side of the town, on a rising ground, and was chiefly composed of brick and stone: the rooms were spacious and magnificent, attached to which was a costly private chapel. The building had two lofty towers of immense size, one of them containing a large hall, great chambers, bed-chambers, kitchen, cellars, and all other offices. The other was called the kitchen-tower. Parts of the wall of the hall, chapel, and kitchen, are still remaining, which display a grand and interesting mass of ruins: the mutilated walls being richly decorated with door-ways, chimney-pieces, windows, coats of arms, and other devices. In this castle, the unfortunate and persecuted Mary Queen of Scots, who has given celebrity to so many castles and old mansions, by her melancholy imprisonment beneath their lofty turrets, was for some time confined, while in the custody of the Earl of Huntingdon. In the year 1608, Anne, consort of James the First, and her son prince Henry, were entertained by the Earl of Huntingdon at this castle, which was at that time the seat of much hospitality. It was afterwards honoured by a visit from that monarch, who remained here for several days, during which time dinner was always served up by thirty poor knights, with gold chains and velvet gowns. In the Civil Wars between King Charles and his Parliament, this castle was deeply involved, being garrisoned for the king; it was besieged by the parliamentary forces, and although it was never actually conquered (from whence the garrison obtained the name of Maiden), it was evacuated and dismantled by capitulation in the year 1648.

The Church, which is dedicated to St. Helen, is built of stone, and is a handsome ancient edifice consisting of a nave and two aisles, which are separated by four lofty arches, springing from fluted pillars.

On each side of the chancel is a large chapel, which projects considerably wider than the church itself; that on the north is converted into a vestry room, and the south is the burial place of the Hastings' family. In the north aisles is a curious instrument of punishment, called a finger pillory, which consists of two upright posts, supporting an horizontal beam in two parts, which opens with a hinge, the lower part having holes of every size for the fingers of the offenders. The principal sepulchral monuments in this church are those of the Huntingdon family, among which is a large and costly altar-tomb, to the memory of Francis Earl of Huntingdon, who died in the year 1561; and Catherine his wife. Here is likewise a monument for Theophilus, the ninth earl, who died in the year 1746; the Countess Selina, his wife, who died in the year 1791, and who is so well known for the erection of numerous chapels in this kingdom, called after her name, was also interred here. Besides the church there is one of Lady Huntingdon's chapels, one Methodist chapel, and one Presbyterian chapel in this town.

Here is a Latin Free-school, founded in the year 1567, by Henry Earl of Huntingdon, and others, "for instructing youth in good manners, learning knowledge, and virtue." Here is also another Free-school, founded by Isaac Dawson, in the year 1669; besides which there are others for instructing 26 boys in the usual branches of school knowledge.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch consists chiefly of one street, and was formerly almost environed by three parks, distinguished by the names of Prestop, the Great, and the Little.

The town is governed by a constable and two head boroughs, and is famous for good ale. It has a very considerable trade in malting, and a well-supplied market on Saturdays, and four annual fairs.

This town is said to be the native place of the right reverend father in God, Joseph Hall, Bishop of Exeter, and afterwards of Norwich, of whom (says Mr. Nichols) "few if any have left behind them such

illustrious memorials of learning, piety, and unwearied industry in the cause of truth. The innocence of his life, the fervour of his charity, the variety and importance of his theological writings, have been so many irresistible claims on posterity to preserve him from oblivion, into which most of his contemporaries have fallen." He was born, according to his statement, on the first of July, 1574 at Prestop Park, "of honest and well-allowed parentage." He died at Norwich, in September, 1656, in the 83rd year of his age. His literary works are copious, and are justly celebrated for the piety, wit, learning, and knowledge of mankind, which they display: they occupy, exclusive of his satires, five volumes in folio and quarto.

Near Ashby-de-la-Zouch is a noted mineral spring, called Griffydam.

About two miles to the east of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, is the village of COLE-ORTON, anciently written Ovretone. It is distinguished for its collieries, whence it appears to have derived the addition of Cole or Coal. The parish consists of two townships, called Overtoun, or Cole Orton Saucy; and Nether-town, or Overton-Quartermarsh. For many ages this place has been noted for its coal mines, and in the reign of Henry VIII. they are said to have burned "for many years together, and could not be quenched, until that sulphurous and brimstone matter (whereupon it wrought) was utterly exhausted and consumed." At Cole-Orton is an hospital and school, united in one building, erected at the expense of Thomas Lord Viscount Beaumont, whose relation, Sir George Beaumont, Bart. built an elegant mansion here.

Returning to our road, soon after leaving Ashby-de-la-Zouch, we enter a part of Derbyshire, and after passing through the village of Measham, in that county, and crossing the Mease river, re-enter Leicestershire about half a mile from the village of SNARESTON, situated about five miles from Ashby-de-la-Zouch. About two miles and a half to the north.

east of Snareston, at the village of Heather, was formerly a house, with lands, belonging to the Knights Hospitallers, the gift of Ralph de Griseley, before the first year of King John. It had a distinct preceptory for some time, and afterwards was accounted part of the preceptory of Dalby. The valuation of this preceptory, about the time of the dissolution, is said to have amounted to 39l. 1s. 5d. per annum.

At the distance of about two miles to the south of Snareston, and one to the left of our road, is Gopsal Hall, the seat of the Hon. — Curzon, son to the Baroness of Howe. This elegant mansion, according to Marshall, was built, and the grounds laid out, at the expense of 100,000l. by the late Mr. Jennens, famous for his friendship to Handel and the Pretender. Mr. Jennens, who was descended from an opulent family of Birmingham, where they had acquired a large fortune in business, having purchased this estate, built a spacious mansion, but dying in the year 1773, without issue, he left Gopsal to his nephew, Penn Asheton Curzon, Esq. who married a niece of Mr. Jennens. This gentleman made a considerable collection of pictures, which, after being displayed in his house in Great Ormond Street, London, he removed here, and likewise adorned the grounds with ornamental temples, &c.; in one of which is a statue, by Roubilliac, of Religion, holding in one hand the book of life, and in the other a cross. This temple is consecrated to the memory of Edward Holdsworth, the author of “*Muscipula*” and remarks and dissertations on Virgil: he died in the year 1746, at Coleshill in Warwickshire. On a cenotaph in the temple is a figure of Genius, represented in a pensive attitude; also Virgil’s tomb, and his bust, with various antique fragments, and a Latin inscription, complimentary to the talents of Holdsworth. The library contains a considerable collection of books; and among the portraits preserved here are several of the Stuart family.

At Norton, a village about two miles to the west of Gopsal, was born, in the year 1667, the celebrated

William Whiston, whose father was rector of that place. He was admitted of Clare Hall, Cambridge, in the year 1686, elected fellow 1690, and was chaplain to Bishop Moore, who presented him, in the year 1698, to the living of Lowestoffe in Suffolk, which, after a most conscientious discharge of his duty for five years, he resigned in the year 1703, on being appointed mathematical professor at Cambridge, through the interest of Sir Isaac Newton. He was very instrumental in establishing charity schools there for 300 poor children. His opinions on the Trinity and Incarnation soon after occasioned him to be expelled the University. He fell under the censure of the convocation, and being refused communion with the church of England, he in the year 1747 joined the Baptists. Having supported himself and family by his mathematical abilities and lectures, and the bounty of his friends, he died after a week's illness, at London, in the year 1752, and was interred at Lyndon, in the county of Rutland, where he has a handsome tomb and inscription.

About six miles from Snareston, after passing through the hamlet of Twycross, we arrive at the village of SHEEPY MAGNA.

Lindley Hall, the seat of the Rev. Samuel Bracebridge Leming, situated about five miles to the south-east of Sheepy Magna, is rendered memorable from its having been the residence of John Hardwick, who led the Earl of Richmond to the field of battle. It was afterwards in the possession of William Burton, the author of the history of Leicestershire, who was born here on the 4th of August, 1575. According to Wood, "his natural genius leading him to the studies of heraldry, genealogies, and antiquities, he became excellent in those obscure and intricate matters; and was accounted by all that knew him to be the best of his time for those studies, as may appear by his description of Leicestershire." The reputation of this work, Mr. Gough justly observes, "arises from its being written early, and preceded only by Lambarde's Kent, 1576; Carew's Cornwall, 1602; and

Norden's Surveys; and it is in comparison only of these, and not of Dugdale's more copious work, that we are to understand the praises so freely bestowed on it, and because nobody has treated the subject more remotely and accurately; for Dugdale (says Burton) as well as Lambarde and Carew, performed briefly. The typographical errors in his volume, especially in the Latin, are so numerous, and the style, according to the manner of that time, so loose, that the meaning is often doubtful. The description is in alphabetical order, and consists chiefly of pedigrees and moot cases."

About half a mile to the east of Lindley is the village of HIGHAM, at which place, in the year 1607, as a labourer was digging, near the Roman road, he struck against a flat stone, which being removed, he found concealed under it 250 pieces of silver coin, of Henry III. with his bust on one side, and on the other a cross mouline between four roundels, circumscribed *Ful on Luid*. In digging farther he discovered two gold rings, one with an agate, another with a ruby, and a third a silver one, with the following Arabic inscription, which was thus read and translated by Mr. William Bedwell, for Mr. Burton:

Cef Hbany cullo yed halimah

B'mahamed thbaly b'fatimah.

By Mahomet magnify him,

Turn from him every hand that may hurt him.

Journey from Ashby-de-la-Zouch to Hinckley, through Ravenstone.

On leaving Ashby-de-la-Zouch, we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of three miles, pass through the village of RAVENSTONE, which is partly situated in the county of Derby, and partly in Leicestershire; it is 117 miles from London.

At the distance of about two miles from Ravenstone, we pass through the village of Ibstock; two miles and a half beyond which is Nailston, another village: and about one mile and a quarter farther, on the left of our road, is Osbaston Hall, the seat of

J. Cockshutt Twisleton, Esq. This estate formerly belonged to the Munday family, from whom it was purchased.

About one mile and a half to the south-west of Osbaston Hall, and one mile to the right of our road, is MARKET BOSWORTH, a small town, having formerly a considerable market, but which is now greatly reduced. The town is pleasantly situated on an eminence. The Church is spacious, though low, and has a very beautiful spire: it had formerly five chapels annexed to it: in it is a fine old monument to the memory of the Dixie family. Here is a free-school, which was founded in the year 1586, by Sir Wolstan Dixie, who was a lord mayor of London.

Market Bosworth is situated 107 miles from London, and contains, according to the late returns, 168 houses, and 865 inhabitants. Its market is on Wednesday. Contiguous to the town is Bosworth-hall, the seat of Mrs. Porlim, sister to the late Sir Wolstan Dixie, Bart. who succeeded to this estate in the year 1766.

About three miles south-east from the town is a large open plain, anciently called Redmore, but afterwards Bosworth Field, now enclosed, where was fought the famous battle between Richard III. and the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII. in which the former lost his life. As the issue of this sanguinary engagement tended to unite the two families of York and Lancaster, whose contentions had kept the nation in a continued succession of wars, hostilities, and personal animosities, from the beginning of the reign of Henry the VI. to the termination of that of Richard III. the insertion of the following particulars, respecting this interesting event, which gave tranquillity to the nation, may not be irrelevant.

The Earl of Richmond, who had some claims to the English sceptre, had been proscribed by Richard III. who had supported the British crown about two years, during which short government, his crimes "were so horrid and so shocking to humani-

ty, that the natural sentiments of men, without any political or public views, were sufficient to render his government unstable ; and every person of probity and honour was earnest to prevent the sceptre from being any longer polluted by that bloody and faithless hand which held it. All the exiles flocked to the Earl of Richmond in Brittany, and exhorted him to hasten his attempt for a new invasion, and to prevent the marriage of the Princess Elizabeth, which must prove fatal to all his hopes. The earl, sensible of the urgent necessity, but dreading the treachery of Peter Landais, who had entered into a negotiation with Richard for betraying him, was obliged to attend only to his present safety ; and he made his escape to the court of France. The ministers of Charles VIII. who had now succeeded to the throne, after the death of his father Lewis, gave him countenance and protection ; and being desirous of raising disturbance to Richard, they secretly encouraged the levies which he made for the support of his enterprise upon England. The Earl of Oxford, whom Richard's suspicions had thrown into confinement, having made his escape, here joined Henry, and inflamed his ardour for the attempt, by the favourable accounts which he brought of the dispositions of the English nation, and their universal hatred of Richard's crimes and usurpation.

“ The Earl of Richmond set sail from Harfleur in Normandy, with a small army of about 2000 men ; and after a navigation of six days, he arrived at Milford-haven in Wales, where he landed without opposition. He directed his course to that part of the kingdom, in hopes that the Welsh, who regarded him as their countryman, and who had been already prepossessed in favour of his cause, by means of the Duke of Buckingham, would join his standard and enable him to make head against the established government. Richard, who knew not in what quarter he might expect the invader, had taken post at Nottingham, in the centre of the kingdom, and having given commissions to different persons in the

several counties, whom he empowered to oppose his enemy, he purposed in person to fly, on the first alarm, to the place exposed to danger. Sir Rice ap Thomas and Sir Walter Herbert were intrusted with his authority in Wales ; but the former immediately deserted to Henry ; the second made but feeble opposition to him ; and the earl, advancing towards Shrewsbury, received every day some reinforcement from his partisans. Sir Gilbert Talbot joined him with all the vassals and retainers of the family of Shrewsbury ; Sir Thomas Bouchier and Sir Walter Hungerford brought their friends to share his fortunes ; and the appearance of men of distinction in his camp made already his cause wear a favourable aspect.

“ But the danger to which Richard was chiefly exposed, proceeded not so much from the zeal of his open enemies, as from the infidelity of his pretended friends. Scarce any nobleman of distinction was sincerely attached to his cause, except the Duke of Norfolk ; and all those who feigned the most loyalty, were only watching for an opportunity to betray and desert him. But the persons of whom he entertained the greatest suspicion were Lord Stanley and his brother Sir William ; whose connexions with the family of Richmond, notwithstanding their professions of attachment to his person, were never entirely forgotten or overlooked by him. When he empowered Lord Stanley to levy forces, he still retained his eldest son, Lord Strange, as a pledge for his fidelity ; and that nobleman was, on this account, obliged to employ great caution and reserve in his proceedings. He raised a powerful body of his friends and retainers in Cheshire and Lancashire, but without openly declaring himself ; and though Henry had received secret assurances of his friendly intentions, the armies on both sides knew not what to infer from his equivocal behaviour. The two rivals at last approached each other at Bosworth, near Leicester ; Henry at the head of six

thousand men, Richard with an army of above double the number : and a decisive action was every hour expected between them. Stanley, who commanded above seven thousand men, took care to post himself at Atherstone, not far from the hostile camps ; and he made such a disposition as enabled him, on occasion, to join either party.—Richard had too much sagacity not to discover his intentions from those movements ; but he kept the secret from his own men for fear of discouraging them : he took not immediate revenge on Stanley's son, as some of his courtiers advised him, because he hoped that so valuable a pledge would induce his father to prolong still farther his ambiguous conduct : and he hastened to decide by arms the quarrel with his competitor ; being certain that a victory over the Earl of Richmond would enable him to take ample revenge on all his enemies, open and concealed.

“ The van of Richmond's army, consisting of archers, was commanded by the Earl of Oxford ; Sir Gilbert Talbot led the right wing ; Sir John Savage the left : the Earl himself, accompanied by his uncle the Earl of Pembroke, placed himself in the main body. Richard also took post in *his* main body, and entrusted the command of his van to the Duke of Norfolk : as his wings were never engaged, we have not learned the names of the several commanders. Soon after the battle began, Lord Stanley, whose conduct in this whole affair discovers great precaution and abilities, appeared in the field, and declared for the Earl of Richmond. This measure, which was unexpected to the men, though not to their leaders, had a proportional effect on both armies : it inspired unusual courage into Henry's soldiers ; it threw Richard's into dismay and confusion. The intrepid tyrant, sensible of his desperate situation, cast his eye around the field, and desiring his rival at no great distance, he drove against him with fury, in hopes that either Henry's death or his own would decide the victory between

them. He killed, with his own hands, Sir William Brandon, standard-bearer to the Earl: he dismounted Sir John Cheyney: he was now within reach of Richmond himself, who declined not the combat; when Sir William Stanley, breaking in with his troops, surrounded Richard, who, fighting bravely to the last moment, was overwhelmed by numbers, and perished by a fate too mild and honourable for his multiplied and detestable enormities. His men every where sought for safety by flight.

"There fell in this battle about four thousand of the vanquished; and among these the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Ferrars of Chartley, Sir Richard Ratcliffe, Sir Robert Piercy, and Sir Robert Brackenbury. The loss was inconsiderable on the side of the victors. Sir William Catesby, a great instrument of Richard's crimes, was taken, and soon after beheaded, with some others, at Leicester. The body of Richard was found in the field covered with dead enemies, and all besmeared with blood: it was thrown carelessly across a horse; was carried to Leicester amidst the shouts of the insulting spectators; and was interred in the Gray-Friars' church of that place."

Several pieces of swords, heads of lances, arrows, battle-axes, and other warlike instruments, are shown at Bosworth, which were discovered in ploughing, and which are said to have been used in this sanguinary battle.

"While we survey this awful field, (says Hutton) the first in consequence in the whole island, that of the battle of Hastings, in Sussex, alone excepted, we may consider it as English classic ground. Here contemplation brings in review important deeds, and their more important effects."

This memorable event in English history has also been rendered more particularly popular by the much admired drama of our immortal bard, called "King Richard the Third," and "how transcendantly beautiful and energetic (justly observes a modern writer) are those passages of Shakspeare,

which describe and display the varied characters, sentiments, and emotions, of the principal personages who performed in this national tragedy.—That scene, where Richard is represented in his tent, and inly ruminating on the morning's danger, is one of those master-pieces of dramatic and philosophic writing, which no author has ever excelled, and which, therefore, finds its way to every head and heart. In the night previous to the fatal battle, our immortal bard describes Richard in his tent, when harassed by a guilty conscience, and incapable of sleeping, he thus expresses his thoughts:—

“ How awful is this gloom !—and hark from camp
to camp,
The hum of either army stilly sounds ;
That the fixt centinels almost receive
The secret whispers of each other's watch.
Steed threatens steed, in high and boastful neigh
ings,
Piercing the night's dull ear.—Hark! from the
tents,
The armourers accomplishing the knights,
With clink of hammers closing rivets up,
Give dreadful note of preparation :
While some, like sacrifices, by the fires of watch,
With patience sit, and inly ruminate
The morning's danger.”

About two miles to the east of Bosworth Field, and on the left of our road, is Kirkby Hall, the seat of Lord Viscount Wentworth. The house, which is pleasantly situated in a park, is built of brick, and its principal front stuccoed. In the contiguous church of Kirkby Malory, are several monuments to the memory of the Noel family.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about five miles from Cadeby, after passing through the hamlet of Stapleton, we arrive at HINCKLEY, a considerable market-town, situated on a rising ground, nearly on the borders of Warwickshire, from

which it is separated by the Roman Watling-street road. This town appears formerly to have been much longer than it is at present; the back lanes between the orchards, being evidently streets originally, and the traces of the town wall and ditch are in many places yet visible; here are likewise vestiges of two Roman works, viz. the mount near the river, and the ruins of a bath near St. Nicholas Church; several tessellated pavements have also been dug up, the largest of which was discovered in the year 1750; and a wall, called the Jewry Wall, is supposed to have been a temple of Janus.

Soon after the Conquest, a stately castle, as also a parish church, was erected here by Hugh de Grentemaisnel. "The ruines of the castle (says Leland) now longing to the king, sumtyme to the Earl of Leciester, be a five miles from Leyrcester, and in the borders of Leyrcester forest, and the boundes of Hinckley be spacious and famose there." Only the earth-works of this castle remained in Burton's time, and even these are now nearly levelled, the site having been occupied as a gardener's ground, till the year 1760, when it was purchased by William Hurst, Esq. who built a handsome dwelling-house upon it in the year 1770; at which time the foundation of a bridge, across the ditch, which surrounded the ancient castle, several large stones which had been part of the castle, a ball of ten inches circumference, and some pieces of silver coin, were discovered.

"Here was formerly an alien priory of two Benedictine monks, belonging to Lyra, in Normandy, to which it was given by Robert Blanchmains, Earl of Leicester, before the year 1173.

The parish Church of Hinckley is very ancient, being ascribed to the 18th century; it is (says Burton) "very fair and large, having a very great and strong spire steeple, so spacious within, that two rings of bells may hang therein together, and hath (for the better ornament thereof) a very tuna-

ble ring of five bells and a chime; to which a treble bell was added by subscription, in 1777;" and in the year 1779 the great bell was exchanged, which now renders them a complete set. The roof of this church is of beautiful oak; and the beams are supported by large pendent cherubim (like those in Westminster Hall), and ornamented with a number of grotesque faces. Adjoining to the church-yard is an old structure, called the Hall-house, formerly the residence of the priors of Hinckley.

Besides a Roman Catholic chapel, there are four meeting-houses in Hinckley, for Presbyterians, Independents, Quakers, and Baptists.

The lordship of Hinckley comprehends two manors; one of which, containing "three parts in four equally to be divided," formerly belonged to Sir Robert Cotten, of great Conningham, in the county of Huntingdon, who was possessed of lands and tenements to a considerable amount; the greatest part of which, together with the manor, after passing from the Cottons through several intermediate hands, became the property of Mr. Hurst. The other manor being one-fourth of the whole lordship, has for time immemorial belonged to the inhabitants of the town, for whom it is holden in trust by two nominal lords, whose accompts are annually audited, on St. Thomas's day, by two town-masters.

The borough is only part of the ancient property, from which a chief rent is reserved to the crown in right of the duchy of Lancaster. It is unknown whether it ever sent members to parliament, but the assizes was formerly held here; the gaol and gallows are however now removed, and on inclosing the common field where the latter stood, many human bones were found in a state of petrification, and a great variety of fossils have been discovered within a gravel-pit on the Derby side of the town.

The town is now divided into The Borough and the Bond without the liberties. The limits of what is now called the Borough have been extended by the

successive addition of four streets, *The Bond End*, *The Castle End*, *The Stoken Head*, and *the Duck Paddle*. The civil government is vested in a mayor, constables, and headboroughs.

A larger quantity of hose is supposed to have been made here than in any town in England; the number of frames in the town and adjacent villages being computed at upwards of 1200. A respectable market is held here on Mondays; and the inhabitants amount to more than 6000.

A short distance eastward of **Hinckley** is a spring called *The Holy Well*, originally dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and once known by the name of *Our Lady's Well*. Good mineral waters are also found in this vicinity, at Cogg's-well, Christopher's Spa, and the Priest's Hills. Near the Holy Well, in the year 1755, six gold nobles of Edward the Third were found.

The chapel of **DADLINGTON**, situated about two miles to the north-west of Hinckley, bears evident marks of antiquity; it has a small wooden turret with two bells: and there was within memory, a large old iron door, on the north side, but which is now stopped up; part of the arch remains filled up with modern brick-work. This place, though a hamlet and chapelry depending on the town of Hinckley, is distinct as to the collection of parochial rates.

A college for a warden and priests, said by Mr. Burton to have been built at Sapcote (a village about three miles to the east of Hinckley) by Sir Simon Basset, in the time of King Henry the Third, seems to have been only a chantry of three priests, founded in the chapel of St. Mary's parish church here, by Ralph Basset.

Robert Burton, the younger brother of William Burton the historian, before mentioned in the account of Hinckley, was born at Lindley in 1576, and falling in with the prevalent whim of the times, called himself Democritus Junior, under this signature

he published a work with the quaint title of "The Anatomy of Melancholy" which, by the injudicious praises of Dr. Ferrier, has obtained considerable celebrity. Grainger calls it an agreeable "cento," but acknowledges that had the author employed more of his talents in original composition, than in merely copying the unconnected sentiments of other writers, he would probably have made his book much more valuable than it is. His work appears to have been a local satire on the pedantry of the times; for it was customary for all writers and speakers to embellish, or rather diversify their language, by quotations from various authors. Sir Edward Coke, in a speech concerning the gunpowder plot, contrives to introduce some passages from the Psalmist, Ovid, &c. One of Burton's biographers describes him, by stating that he was an exact mathematician, a curious calculator of nativities, a thorough-paced philologist, and an intelligent surveyor of lands; a devourer of authors, a melancholy, yet humorous man, merry, *facete*, and although advanced in years, a juvenile companion; readily and dexterously interlarding his discourses with verses and sentences from classical authors. Such is the account of the *man* by one who appears to be rather partial: the following critique on his book is more discriminating, and in my own estimation, perfectly just. I have attempted several times to read it, but was perpetually disgusted with crude fancies, verbose pedantry, dull common place, and eternal quotations spun out in unceasing repetition; it has seldom happened that I was more fatigued and so anxious to close a book; and I impute the sentence of approbation pronounced on it by Dr. Johnson, to Burton's chiming in with some favourite opinion, or to his perusing the work at a moment unfavourable to critical sagacity, similar to that in which he condemned Dr. Watts, and exalted the muse of Blackmore; so far the Lounger's common place book. The work of Dr. Ferrier, that tended to excite some

enquiry after the Anatomy of Melancholy, and gave it a temporary notoriety, was entitled "Illustrations of Sterne." In this work the Doctor endeavours to prove that our witty and highly satirical divine, was indebted to Burton for much of his eccentric style, &c. and therefore accuses him of plagiarism. On comparing the writings of the two, there will be found but very few similitudes; for whilst Sterne is constantly displaying wit, satire, novelty, and fine writing, Burton's work is merely an heterogenous common-place book, more distinguished for its dulness than its vivacity or brilliancy. Besides, the writings of Sterne will be long read and admired, after those of Burton and Ferrier are forgotten or disregarded. And such will ever be the happy pre-eminence of that writer, who draws his literary pictures from the fascinating and immutable face of nature, while the copyist, the dull critic, will become more and more obscured by shadow as time proceeds in his gradual career.

Journey from Leicester to Sharwell; through Lutterworth.

At the distance of two miles and a half to the south of Leicester, we pass through the village of Aylestone, about two miles to the south-west of which is Enderby Hall. The scenery here is particularly interesting, presenting a rocky hill, with some fine woods, which partake of the wild romantic features of a forest. In the time of Edward the First, this manor belonged to Sir Robert Neville, but it was purchased soon after the year 1720, by the Smith family. At the west end of the contiguous church of Enderby, is a handsome arch, decorated with the heads of men, animals, &c. and supported by fluted columns, with foliated capitals. Here is also a neat monument to the memory of Richard Smith, Esq. who died in the year 1762, and who left 500l. to propagate the gospel in foreign countries; 500l. to the marine society; the interest of

500l. to the vicars of Enderby, and 200l. to endow a school at this place.

About one mile and a half from Aylestone we cross the Union Canal, and at the distance of about nine miles, after passing through the village of Blaby, arrive at Lutterworth, a market-town situated on the banks of the small river Swift, which soon after leaving the town joins the Avon. Leland describes this "towne as scant half so bigge as Loughborow; but in it there is an hospital of the foundation of two or three of the Verdounes, that they were lords of auncient tyme of the towne. A good part of the landes of Verdounes becom in processe unto the Lord Marquise of Dorsett. And the College of Asscheley in Warwickshire, by Nunnes-ton, where the late Lorde Thomas Marquise of Dorsett was buried, was of the foundation of Thomas Lord Asteley. And all the landes and manor that the Lord Marquise of Dorsete hath in that egge of Leicestershire, or Warwickshire, were longing sum time to the Verdounes and Astleis. There riseth certain springes in the hilles a mile from Lutterworth."

Many of the houses of this town are regular and well-built of brick, but the more ancient buildings are of mud covered with thatch. The church is a large handsome building, with a nave, two aisles, a tower, and a chancel, which last is separated from the nave by a beautiful screen. The chancel is supposed by Burton to have been built by the Lord Ferrers of Groby, as his arms are cut on the outside over the great window; the tower is remarkably handsome, with four beautiful turrets; in the beginning of the 18th century, however, the roof was beat in by the fall of the spire, which was nearly 50 feet higher than the present turrets. About the year 1740 the whole was repaired, a pavement of chequered stone laid, and all the inside made new except the pulpit, which is of thick oak planks, of a hexagonal shape, and has a seam of carved work,

in the joints. This pulpit is preserved with great veneration in memory of the reformer Wickliffe, who was rector of this place; and died here on the 31st of December, 1387, of an attack of the palsy, which seized him as he was hearing mass, just at the elevation of the host: his body was buried in this church; but his doctrines being afterwards condemned by the council of Constance, his bones, which had lain in the earth upwards of forty years, were ordered to be taken from the grave, and after being burnt were thrown into the brook. These desperate proceedings created much commotion; and many crafty tales were invented and propagated to justify the conduct of the priests; but, says Mr. Gilpin, "The very names of Wickliffe, Lord Cobham, Huss, &c. will not only awaken sentiments of gratitude and veneration in every ingenuous heart, but will likewise excite a laudable desire of being particularly acquainted with the lives and characters of those eminent worthies, who in times of peculiar danger and difficulty, nobly dared to oppose the tyrannical usurpation and barbarous superstition of the Church of Rome, and sacrificing every valuable consideration on earth to the cause of truth and liberty. Wickliffe was in religion what Bacon was afterwards in science; the great detector of those arts and glosses, which the barbarism of ages had drawn together to obscure the mind of man." His portrait now hangs over the gallery at the west end of the church; the altar of which is adorned with an elegant painting of the Wise Men's offering; and the communion table is covered with a cloth of purple velvet, wrought with gold, and is asserted to be the very garment worn by Wickliffe. The font, which was given by Basil, Earl of Denbigh, has a canopy or covering, which is very neat; it was erected in the year 1704, and is said to be an exact model of the old spire. The rectory, which is valuable is in the gift of the crown.

In the reign of King John an hospital was founded

here by Roise de Verdon and Nicholas her son for one priest and six poor men, and to keep hospitality for poor men travelling that way; the statutes for the regulation of this hospital, which were drawn up soon after the year 1319, under the sanction of John D'Alderby, bishop of Lincoln, are preserved among the records of that cathedral. Several donations were afterwards made to the hospital, among which, in the year 1322, William Poyntell gave eight messuages, with one yard land and a quarter, lying in Hill Morton, in the county of Warwick, for a chantry priest to sing mass for the souls of the said William and his wife.

The principal manufacture carried on in this town is that of cotton; the stocking trade is likewise carried on here to some extent.

The town of Lutterworth was formerly noted for a peculiar vassalage of its inhabitants; all of whom were obliged to grind their malt at one particular mill, and their corn at another. This arbitrary custom originated in an official order, or decree, made in the year 1631, enforcing the inhabitants to "grind their corn, malt, and grits, at certain ancient water corn-mills, called the Lodge Mills, and an ancient malt mill, within the manor of Lutterworth." In this order it is specified, that King James was seized in his "demesne as of fee, in the right of the crown of England, of the said mills, &c. and did grant them in fee farm unto Edward Ferrars and Francis Philips, gentlemen, and their heirs and assigns, together with all the suit of mills, and benefit of grinding and mulcture; reserving unto his said late majesty, his heirs and successors, for ever, the yearly rent of 5l." This custom of feudal tyranny was continued till within half a century ago; when a person of the name of Bickley, not only roused his neighbours to resistance, but had spirit enough to erect a mill of his own. His example was soon followed by others, so that several mills soon raised their heads in opposition to the old ones: the proprietor of which im-

mediately commenced actions against all who had the presumption to dispute his right. The inhabitants entered into a bond to defend the action; and the contest was finally decided at Leicester assizes, on July 24, 1758, and given in favour of the parishioners, with costs of suit to the amount of 300*l*.

Lutterworth is situated 89 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 410 houses, and 1845 inhabitants. The market is on Thursday.

Near this town formerly stood a mansion, called the Spittal, belonging to the Shuckburg family; and at the village of Misterton, about a mile to the east of Lutterworth, is Misterton Hall.

In the neighbourhood of Lutterworth is a petrifying spring, the water of which is exceeding cold, and so strongly impregnated with petrifying particles, that in a very little time it converts wood and several other substances into stone.

About four miles to the west of Lutterworth is CLAYBROOK, a large parish, divided into two villages, the one called Great Claybrook, Nether Claybrook, or Lower Claybrook; the other Little Claybrook, Over Claybrook, or Upper Claybrook; the latter, in which the church stands, is situated in the great turnpike road leading between Lutterworth and Hinckley. Though the two Claybrooks have separate poor-rates and overseers, yet they are subject to the jurisdiction of one constable; and the land-tax in both lordships is collected by the same assessors. The parish comprehends an area of about four miles in length, by nearly two miles and a half in breadth, and contains, according to estimation, 4000 acres of land.

About two miles to the west of Little Claybrook is a place called High Cross, which, according to some antiquarians, was the Benonce or Vennones of the Romans. Dr Stukely describes this station as situated at the intersection of the two great Roman Roads, "which traverse the kingdom obliquely, and

seem to be the centre, as well as the highest ground in England; for from hence rivers run every way. The foss-road went on the backside of an inn standing here, and so towards Bath. The ground hereabout is very rich, and much *ebulus* (an herb much sought after for the cure of dropsies), grows here. Claybrook lane has a piece of a quickset hedge left across it, betokening one side of the foss; which road in this place bears exactly north-east and south-west as it does upon the moor on this side of Lincoln. In the garden before the inn above-mentioned, a tumulus was removed about the year 1720, under which the body of a man was found upon the plain surface; as likewise hath been under several others hereabout: and foundations of buildings have been frequently dug up along the street here, all the way to Cleycestre, through which went the great street-way, called Watling-street; for on both sides of the way have been ploughed and dug up many ancient coins, great square stones and bricks, and other rubbish, of that ancient Roman building, not far from a beacon, standing upon the way now called High Cross, of a cross which stood there some time, upon the meeting of another great way."

At the intersection of the roads is the pedestal, &c. of a cross which was erected here in the year 1712; on which are the two following Latin inscriptions. On one side is

Vicinarum provinciarum, Vervicensis scilicet et Leicesterensis, ornamenta, proceres patritiique, auspiciis illustrissimi Basili Comitis de Denbeigh, hanc columnam statuendam curaverunt, in gratam pariter et perpetuam memoriam Jani tandem a Serenissima Anna clausi A. D. MDCCXII.

Which is thus translated,

The noblemen and gentry, ornaments of the neighbouring counties of Warwick and Leicester, at the instances of the Right Honourable Basil Earl

of Denbeigh, have caused this pillar to be erected in grateful as well as perpetual remembrance of Peace at last restored by her Majesty Queen Anne, in the year of our Lord 1712.

The inscription on the other side runs thus,

Si Veterum Romanorum vestigia quæras, hic cernas viator. Hic enim celeberrimæ illorum viæ militares sese mutuo secantes ad extremos usque Britanniae limites procurent : hic stativasua habuerunt Vennones ; et ad primum ad hinc lapidem castra sua ad Stratam, et ad Fossam tumulum, Claudius quidam cohortis præfectus habuisse videtur.

Which may be thus rendered,

If, traveller, you search for the footsteps of the ancient Romans, here you may behold them. For here their most celebrated ways, crossing one another, extend to the utmost boundaries of Britain : here the Vennones kept their quarters : and at the distance of one mile from hence, Claudius, a certain commander of a cohort, seems to have had a camp, towards the street, and towards the foss a tomb.

The ground here is so high, and the surrounding country so low and flat, that it is said, fifty-seven churches may be seen from this spot by the help of a glass.

The following judicious remarks, on the customs, manners, and dialects, of the common people of this district by Mr. Macauley, who published a history of Claybrook, may be amusing to many readers, "The people here are much attached to *wakes* ; and among the farmers and cottagers these annual festivals are celebrated with music, dancing, feasting, and much inoffensive sport ; but in the neighbouring villages the return of the wake never fails to produce at least a week of idleness, intoxication, and riot. These, and other abuses by which those festivals are grossly perverted, render it highly desirable to all

the friends of order and decency that they were totally suppressed. On Plow Monday is annually displayed a set of *morice dancers* : and the custom of ringing the curfew, is still continued here as well as the pancake bell on Shrove Tuesday. The dialect of the common people is broad, and partakes of the Anglo-Saxon sounds and terms. The letter *h* comes in almost on every occasion where it ought not, and it is frequently omitted where it ought to come in. The words *fire*, *mire*, and such like, are pronounced as if spelt *foire*, *moire* ; and *place*, *face*, and other similar words, as if spelt *pleace*, *feace* ; and in the plural you sometimes hear *pleacen*, *closen*, for closes, and many other words in the same style of Saxon termination. The words *there* and *where*, are generally pronounced *theere* and *wheree* ; the words *mercy*, *deserve*, thus, *marcy*, *desarve*. The following peculiarities are also observable : *us*, strongly asperated for *us* ; *war* for *was* ; *meed* for *maid* ; *faither* for father ; *e'ery* for *every*, *brig* for *bridge*, *thurrough* for *furrow* ; *hawf* for *half*, *cart rit* for *cart rut*, *malefactory* for *manufactory*, *inactions* for *anxious*. The words *mysen* and *himsen*, are sometimes used for myself and himself : the word *shoek* is used to denote an idle worthless vagabond ; and the word *ripe* for one who is very profane. The following phrases are common “ a power of people,” “ a hantle of money,” “ I can't awhile as yet.” The words *like* and *such* frequently occur as expletives in conversation “ I wont stay here haggling all day and *such*.” “ If you dont give me my price *like*,” The monosyllable *as* is generally substituted for *that* ; “ the last time *as* I called,” “ I reckon *as* I an't one,” “ I imagine *as* I am not singular.” Public characters are stigmatized by saying “ that they set poor lights.” The substantive *right* often supplies the place of *ought*, as “ farmer A has a right to pay his tax.” Next ways, and clever through, are in common use, as “ I shall go clever through Ullesthorpe.” “ *Nigh hand*” for probably, as he will nigh hand

call on us. *Duable*, convenient or proper: thus “the church is not served at *duable* hours.” Wives of farmers often call their husbands “our master,” and the husbands call their wives *mamy*, whilst a labourer will often distinguish his wife by calling her the o’man. People now living remember when *Goody* and *Dame*, *Gaffer* and *Gammer*, were in vogue among the peasantry of Leicestershire; but they are now almost universally discarded and supplanted by Mr. and Mrs. which are indiscriminately applied to all ranks, from the squire and his lady down to Mr. and Mrs. Pauper, who flaunt in rags and drink tea twice a day.”

Returning to our road, at the distance of three miles from Lutterworth, we arrive at the village of Shawell, about one mile to the south-east of which is the village of SWINFORD, where there was formerly a preceptory of the Knight’s Templars; and within the church a chantry, founded by Nicholas Cowley, for one priest to sing mass, &c.

About one mile to the east of Swinford, in the parish of Stanford, is Stanford Hall, the seat of the Cave family, some of whom resided here for many generations, afterwards the property and residence of Henry Otway, Esq. in right of his wife, only sister of the last Sir Thomas Cave. It is a large and convenient family mansion, seated in a fine park, and the river Avon, which is forced beyond its original banks, runs in the front of the house, which constitutes a pleasant feature in the landscape.

At the distance of one mile to the south-west of Swinford, at the southern extremity of the county is CAT-THORPE, a village situated on the side of a gentle eminence, and commanding a view of a pleasant valley, through which the river Avon winds its course. Over this river, about three quarters of a mile south-west of the village, is Dove-bridge, situated near the Tripontium of Antoninus. This bridge is described by Dr. Stukeley as being “placed in

a sweet little valley, with the sides pretty steep.—The stream here divides into two, with a bridge over each; upon one a stone inscription, very laconic, shewing the three counties that repair it.—Hard by antiquities have been found, both at Cat-thorpe and Lilburn: one on the north, the other on the south side of the river; so that the Roman city stood on both sides.” There are several vestiges of encampments, both on the Northamptonshire and Leicestershire sides of the river; and the Roman road passed through the middle of an encampment, which Mr. Ireland says, “was indisputably the Roman station mentioned by Antoninus, in his journey from London to Lincoln, under the denomination of Tripontium. The circular tumulus, called by different writers the Prætorium Auguale, or Augustale, is sixty feet in height, having its base formed by a rampart or vallum, washed on the north side by the river Avon. This elevated spot, which commands a view of the whole encampment, was allotted to the general, the superior officers, and young men of rank who served as volunteers. On the eastern side of the prætorium, and adjoining to it, is the upper camp, the north side of which is in like manner washed by the Avon. The northern side of the prætorium, with that of the upper camp, form one line, 276 feet in length.—The inner vallum or agger of the middle camp, is only 28 feet in height being defended by the river.” To the south of this encampment, there is another of larger dimensions, which is separated from the former by a foss. Its southernmost outer vallum is about 260 feet in length, and the height of the inner vallum is 57 feet. A considerable part of this station is in Northamptonshire.

*Journey from Croxton Kyriell to Hinckley; through
Leicester.*

Croxton Kyriell is 113 miles from London, at the north-east extremity of the county, on the borders

of Lincolnshire. At this village, Porcarius de Linus, in the year 1162, built an abbey for Premonstratentian canons, which he dedicated to St. John the Evangelist; it was endowed, at the suppression, with 358l. 0s. 10d. per annum. In its church the bowels of King John are said to have been buried, the abbot being his physician.

About three miles to the north of Croxton Kyriell, is Belvoir Castle, the splendid seat of the Manners family for several generations. This castle, in some topographical works, has been described as being situated in Lincolnshire, and Camden says, "In the west part of Kesteven, on the edge of this county (Lincolnshire) and Leicestershire, there stands Belvoir Castle, so called (whatever was its ancient name) from the fine prospect on a steep hill, which seems the work of art." Burton expressly says, that it "is certainly in Lincolnshire," and the authors of the *Magna Britannia* are of the same opinion; but Mr. Nichols, whose authority on subjects of local history, respecting Leicestershire, is in general decisive and satisfactory, states that, "the castle is at present in every respect considered as being within this county, with all the lands of the extra-parochial part of Belvoir thereto belonging (including the site of the priory,) consisting in the whole of about 600 acres of wood, meadow, and pasture ground; upon which are now no buildings but the castle, with its offices, and the inn. It would be a difficult matter, notwithstanding, to trace out with accuracy the precise boundary of the two counties in this neighbourhood."

Leland says, "the Castle of *Belvoir* standeth in the utter part of that way of Leicestershire, on the nape of an high hill, steep up each way, partly by nature, partly by working of men's hands, as it may evidently be perceived. Whether there were any castle there before the Conquest or no I am not sure, but surely I think rather no than ye. Totencius was the first inhabiter there after the Conquest. Then

it came to Albeneius, and from Albeney, to Ros—The Lord Ros took king Henry VIth's part against king Edward, whereupon his lands were confiscated and Belever Castle given in keeping to Lord Hastings, who coming thither on a time to peruse the ground and to lie in the castle, was suddenly repelled by Mr. Harrington, a man of power thereabouts, and friend to the Lord Ros. Whereupon the Lord Hastings came thither another time with a strong power, and upon a raging will spoiled the castle, defacing the roofs, and taking the leads off them.—Then fell all the castle to ruins, and the timber of the roofs uncovered, rotted away, and the soil between the walls at the last grew full of elders, and no habitation was there till that, of late days, the Earl of Rutland hath made it fairer than ever it was.

This estate came into the Manners family, by the marriage of Eleanor with Robert de Manners of Ethale, in the county of Northumberland. Eleanor was the eldest sister of Edmund Lord Ros, who resided at the manor-house of Elsinges, in Enfield, Middlesex, where he died in the year 1508, and where an elegant monument was erected to his memory. Dying without issue, his sisters became heirs to the estates, and Belvoir being part of the moiety of Eleanor, became the property of the Manners family, who have continued to possess it to the present time.

Of the ancient state of Belvoir Castle, some idea may be formed from the description of Leland, already recited, but to give a full and satisfactory account of its present condition, would be no easy task. The castle, however, which surrounds a quadrangular court, occupies nearly the summit of a lofty hill, up the sides of which are several stone steps, and on its southern slope are some hanging gardens, or inclosed terraces, with shrubberies, &c. Seven small pieces of cannon were presented by

his late Majesty to the Duke of Rutland to be mounted at this castle; 21 rounds from which were fired for the first time on the 5th of November, 1808, in commemoration of the gunpowder plot.—In situation and aspect this edifice partly resembles that of Windsor.

It was in the Civil Wars defended for the king by Mr. Maison, rector of Ashwell, in the county of Rutland. The parliament ordered it to be demolished in the year 1649, and satisfaction made to the Earl, whose son, however, rebuilt it after the Restoration.

Belvoir Castle is a most romantic situation upon an abrupt elevation of a kind of natural cliff, forming the termination of a peninsular hill, the basis of which is red grit stone, but now covered with vegetable mould, and well turfed by nature and art, and varied into terraces of different elevation: the lower part of the declivity and some of the upper, abundantly covered with forest trees to a great extent, and forming a woodland beneath the foundation of this ancient mansion, so extensive as to form shelter to an innumerable multitude of rooks. This magnificent mansion is, doubtless, situated upon the site of a very ancient fortification. Its late thorough reparation was at the expense of more than 60,000*l*. It has been twice or thrice rebuilt. A walk round the terrace affords a view of the whole vale and the adjacent country as far as Lincoln, including 22 of the Duke of Rutland's manors.

It is to be lamented that a fire in October, 1816, burnt a portion of the ancient part of this fine building, with some of the valuable pictures, which, on the decease of the late duke, were entrusted to the care of the Rev. William Peters, rector of Knipton, in this neighbourhood, whose talents as an artist must render him peculiarly qualified to appreciate the value of the charge committed to his care and respecting which, in a communication to

Mr. Nichols, he says, "Belvoir Castle contains one of the best collections of paintings in this kingdom, whether considered in the variety of schools which are brought together in one view, or in the judicious choice of the works of each master. Rubens, the prince of Flemish painters, appears no where with more brilliancy than in Belvoir Castle: it is enriched with six of his hand. Of Murillo, the boast of Spain, there are three large compositions; and Teniers, that child of Nature, furnishes the castle with eight of his best-finished and most pleasing performances. Reynolds, the first and as yet chief of the English school, holds a distinguished rank among his brethren of the pencil, and by the classic arrangement of his figures, the grouping of his angels, the beauty of his colouring, and the distribution of his light and shade, in his picture of the Nativity, takes the palm of victory from one of the best pictures Rubens ever painted, which hangs opposite to it, a seeming competition with this unrivalled work of our British artist.

Among the pictures are the following portraits by Sir Joshua Granby, three quarters; another, full length, with his hussar and horse; Earl of Mansfield, half length; Lord Robert Manners; Sir Joshua Reynolds; General Oglethorp; the second Earl of Chatham, whole length; Kitty Fisher, by Sir Peter Lely; the first Duke of Rutland, half length; John, second Duke of Rutland, with a view of a bridge in the back ground, by Closterman; Henry VIII. a whole length, and the most perfect known, by Hans Holbein; Lord Chaworth, by Vandyck; Sir Isaac Newton and the Duke of Monmouth, by Kneller; Lord George Cavendish, by Pompeo Battoni; Charles I. on horseback, from Vandyck; Old Stone; William, first Earl of Chatham, half length, Hoare; Charles, Duke of Rutland; Dance.—PICTURES: the Seven Sacraments, by N. Pouissin; two Landscapes, by Pouissin; Dutch Proverbs; Boors at Cards; an Old Woman with her Dram-bottle; Cranes; an Ox-

Stall; Temptations of St. Anthony; an Old Man's Head, with Jug and Glass, by Teniers; death of Lord Robert Manners, by Stothard; Barbarossa, Madonna, and Child, by Vandyck; Sun-set; another Sun-set; Flight into Egypt; Landscapes by Claude; Sea Monster, by Salvator Rosa; Nativity; Infant Jupiter; Old Man reading; Head of a Boy; Samuel, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Hercules and Antæus; Maid of Orleans; Shepherd and Shepherdess; a Female Martyr, and three Female Saints, being Rubens' three Wives; Holy Family, small; the Gods, by Rubens; Landscape, Cottagers and Man bringing Wood; Landscape with Cart-horses, by Gainsborough; Christ disputing with the Doctors; Samuel presented to Eli; William of Albanac, and his three Daughters, by West; King John Delivering Magna Charta to the Barons; a Conversation piece with a Pilgrim; ditto, with Soldiers, Fish, &c. by Mortimer.

“ John, the third Duke of Rutland, and Charles, the late much-lamented owner of these works, were both of them patrons of the arts, in the fullest extent of that word; for they were not contented only to look at and admire the dawning of genius in the infant mind, but sought out excellence wherever it could be found, cherished it in its bud, protected it in its progress, and supported it with their fortunes when ripened into that state of perfection which it could not attain to by the liberal and steady patronage of the good and great. John, the third duke, delighted much in the management of the pencil, and employed many of his leisure hours in that most pleasing amusement, and to the fostering hand of the late duke the arts are indebted for their flourishing state in this country. By an early and warm attachment to men whose works have formed that style of painting which has created an English school, he did equal honour to himself, to his country, and to the age in which he lived. All the

modern pictures, of which there are a very considerable number, were of his collecting."

At Belvoir was formerly a priory of four black monks, subordinate to the Abbey of St. Alban, in Hertfordshire, to which it was annexed by its founder Robert de Belvideir, or De Todenci, in the time of William the Conqueror. It was dedicated to St. Mary; and was valued, upon the Dissolution, at 104l. 19s. 10d. per annum. Dr. Stukely, in the year 1726, saw the coffin and bones of the founder, who died in 1088, dug up in the Priory chapel, then a stable: and on a stone was inscribed in large letters, with lead cast in them, ROBERT DE TODENE LE FVDEVR. Another coffin and cover near it was likewise discovered with the following inscription — "The Vale of Bever, barren of wood, is large and very plentiful of good corn and grass, and lieth in three shires, Leicester, Lincoln, and much in Nottinghamshire."

As the possessors of this castle and lordship were chiefly persons of great eminence, and many of them distinguished in the historical annals of the county; and as some of them, from their dignity and power, exercised considerable control over this and the contiguous counties; it will be necessary to give a concise account of the most eminent. Robert, the first Norman lord, died in 1088, and was buried in the chapter-house of the Priory, where Dr. Stukely discovered a stone inscribed to his memory. "By a general survey taken at the death of Robert de Todenci, it appears that he was in possession of fourscore lordships: many of which, by uninterrupted succession, continue still to be the property of the Duke of Rutland. The lordships in Leicestershire, as enumerated in Domesday, were, Horninghold, Medborne, Blaston, Harby, Barkston (including Plungar), Bottesford, Redmile, Knipton, Loughton, Lubbenham, Barkby Thorpe, Hungerton, Croxton, Quenby, Long-Clauston, Howes, Stathern, and Holwell.—In Linconshire his domains were still more numerous. In Northamptonshire he had nine

lordships; one of which, Stoke, acquired the additional name of Albini, when it came into the possession of his son."

William de Albini, son of the above, succeeded to these lordships; and, like his father, was a celebrated warrior, and distinguished himself at the Battle of Tenerchebray in Normandy, where Henry the First encountered Robert Curthose, his brother. Matthew Paris describes the actions of William as being particularly valiant on this occasion. King Stephen and Henry the Second granted the castle of Belvoir to Ranulph de Gernons, Earl of Chester: but it was again obtained by de Albini, who died here about 1155. He obtained from Henry the First a grant of an annual fair at Belvoir, to be continued for eight days.

William de Albini (alias Meschines, and Brito), the next possessor of Belvoir, &c. endowed the Priory here with certain lands, and, in 1165, on the aid granted to Henry II. for marrying his eldest daughter Maud to the Emperor, certified the king that he then held of him thirty-two knights' fees under the old feoffment, whereby he was enfeoffed in the time of King Henry the First.

William de Albini, the third of the name, was a distinguished character in the reign of King Richard the First, and went with that monarch into Normandy in 1195. In 1211, a peace being concluded between King John and the French King, William de Albini was one of the sureties for the former. He was also one of those twenty-five barons who swore to the observation of Magna Charta and Charta de Foresta, sealed by the King at Runnemeade, in the 17th year of his reign. Afterwards he was engaged in the barons' wars and was taken prisoner by the king's party at Rochester Castle. The castle at Belvoir was also seized by the monarch. Previous to his death, he granted several immunities to the priory of Belvoir, for the health of his own soul, and the soul of Agatha his wife, and the soul of Margery

his former wife. He also founded, and plentifully endowed, the hospital of our lady, called Novum-locum, (Newstead,) at Wassebridge, between Stamford and Uffington, where he was interred in May, 1236.

An opulent heiress of the house of Albini, named Isabel, married to Robert de Ross, or Roos, baron of Hamlake, and thus carried these estates, &c. into a new family. The bounds of the lordship of Belvoir at this time, are described by a document printed in Nichols's History. This new lord obtained a license from Henry III, to hold a weekly market at Belvoir, and an annual fair. He died in 1285, and his body was buried at Kirkham, his bowels before the high altar at Belvoir, and his heart at Croxton Abbey. It was a common practice in this age, for eminent characters to have their corporal remains thus distributed after death. An inscription, with the arms of Robert de Ros, is preserved in the church at Bottesford. In 1304, William de Ros was allowed to inclose 100 acres in the parish of Redmile, under the name of Bever Park, which was appropriated solely to the preservation of game. This gentleman was a benefactor to the Priory of Belvoir, to the priory of Ouston, and also to the house of White Friars at Blackney, in Norfolk. He died in 1317, and was buried in the monastery of Kirkham.

William de Ros, eldest son of the above, finished the foundation in 1321, which his father had begun, at Blakeney; was made Lord Ros, of Werke, took the title of Baron Ros, of Hamlake, Werke, Belvoir, and Trusbut: and had summons to parliament from 11th Edward II. to 16th Edward III. He was also appointed Lord High Admiral of England. Dying in 1342, he was interred at Kirkham, in Yorkshire, under a monument near the great altar.

Sir William de Ros, Knight, was a very distinguished character during the reign of Henry the Fourth; was appointed Lord High Treasurer in 1402, and one of the triers of petitions in parlia-

ment. He also held several other offices of state. By his will he gave 400*l.* "for finding ten honest chaplains to pray for his soul, and the souls of his father, mother, brethren, sisters," &c. &c. for eight years, within his chapel at Belvoir Castle. He died here in 1414; and his monument was removed from Belvoir Priory to Bottesford church, after the dissolution.

John Ros, the eldest son of the above, succeeded to the estates in 1414, and was slain, with his brother William, at Baugé, near Anjou. His remains were brought to England, and immured at Belvoir, and his monument is now preserved at Bottesford. He was succeeded by Thomas Ros, his brother, who was knighted in the wars of France. Dying in 1431, he was succeeded by his son, who was then an infant; but who on coming to age, took an active part in the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster. He was attainted in parliament, the 4th of November, 1461; and the possessions of this noble family were parcelled out, by King Edward the Fourth, among his numerous partizans. "The honour, castle, and lordship of Belvoir, with the park, and all its members, viz. Wolsthorp, Barkston, Plungar, Redmile, Harby, Bottesford, Normanton, and Easthorpe, with the advowsons of their several churches, and the rent called Castle-guard throughout England, at that time an appurtenance to this castle, were granted, August 9th, 1467, to William, Lord Hastings, to hold of the king and his heirs, by homage only."

In 1472-3, on the petition of Sir Henry Ros, Knight, the act of attainder was repealed. Again, in 1483, Edmund Lord Ros presented a petition to the parliament, for obtaining possession of all the family estates. He resided at the manor-house of Elsinges, in Enfield, Middlesex, where he died in 1508, and where an elegant monument was erected to his memory. Dying without issue, his sisters became heirs to the estates; and Eleanor, the eldest,

marrying Robert de Maners, of Ethale, in the county of Northumberland, conveyed her moiety of the Ros property into the family, who have continued to possess it to the present time. George Maners, eldest son of the above-named Robert, succeeded to his father's estates; among which were those of Belvoir castle, Hamlake in Yorkshire, and that of Orston, in Nottinghamshire. By his will, a copy of which is given by Mr. Nichols, dated October 16th, 1513, he is styled "Sir George Maners, Knight, Lord Ros." He was interred, with his lady, in a chantry chapel (founded by his father-in-law, Sir Thomas St. Ledger) in the chapel of St. George, at Windsor, where an handsome monument was raised to his memory. Thomas Lord Ros, succeeded his father, and was created, by Henry the Eighth, a knight, and afterwards Earl of Rutland, a title which had never before been conferred on any person but of the blood royal. This nobleman, being very active in suppressing some rebellions during the time of dissolving the monasteries, was rewarded by the monarch, with several of the monastic manors and estates. Among these were the dissolved priories of Belvoir, and Egle in Lincolnshire. He caused many ancient monuments of the Albinis and Rosses to be removed from the priory churches of Belvoir and Croxton to that of Bottesford. And to this nobleman is to be attributed the restoration and rebuilding of Belvoir Castle, which had continued in ruins from the time of Lord Hastings's attack. It was during the time that this Earl of Rutland possessed Belvoir Castle, that Leland visited it, and described it in the following terms. "It is a straunge sighte to se he how many steppes of stone the way goith up from the village to the castel. In the castel be 2 faire gates; and the dungeon is a faire rounde towere now turned to pleasure, as a place to walk yn, and to se al the countrey aboute, and raylid about the round (wall,) and a garden (plotte) in the

middle. There is also a welle of grete depth in the castelle, and the spring thereof is very good."

Henry, the second Earl of Rutland, succeeded his father in 1543; and after being engaged in some of the Scotch wars, devoted his attention to the castle of Belvoir, the buildings of which were greatly extended during his life. He also collected together, from the ruined monasteries, several of the monuments of his ancestors. In 1556, he was appointed by Philip and Mary, captain-general of all the forces then going to France, also chief commander of the fleet. He was installed knight of the garter, June 4, 1559; and the same year was made lord lieutenant of the counties of Nottingham and Rutland. His monument, with those of the other Earls of Rutland, have been already noticed in the account of Bottesford.

Edward, the third Earl of Rutland, eldest son of the former, succeeded in 1563; was made lord lieutenant of the county of Lincoln in 1582; and knight of the garter in 1585. Camden calls him a "profound lawyer, and a man accomplished with all polite learning." In his will, which is written in a style very superior to the generality of such productions, he directs 100 pound at least, to be expended on his tomb.

John, a colonel of foot in the Irish wars, became fourth Earl of Rutland in 1587; and, in the same year, was constituted constable of Nottingham Castle, and lord lieutenant of that county, and died in February 1587-8. He was followed by his son Roger, the fifth Earl, whose titles, &c. are already specified. Dying without issue, his brother Francis was nominated his heir, and made the sixth Earl. He was a great traveller, and appointed to several important offices of state. He married two wives, by the first of whom he had only one child, named Catharine, who married George Villiers, the first Duke of Buckingham. Her issue, George, the second Duke of Buckingham, dying without an heir, the title of

Lord Ros of Hamlake again reverted to the Rutland family. By a second marriage he had two sons, who, according to the monument, were murdered by "wicked practice and sorcery."

As illustrative of the folly and superstition of the times, it may be amusing to explain this. Joan Flower, and her two daughters, who were servants at Belvoir castle, having been dismissed the family, in revenge, made use of all the enchantments, spells, and charms, that were at that time *supposed* to answer their malicious purposes. Henry, the eldest son, died soon after their dismissal; but no suspicion of witchcraft arose till five years after, when the three women, who are said to have entered into a formal contract with the devil, were accused of "murdering Henry Lord Ros by witchcraft, and torturing the Lord Francis his brother, and Lady Catharine his sister." After various examinations, before Francis Lord Willoughby, of Eresby, and other magistrates, they were committed to Lincoln gaol. Joan died at Ancaster, on her way thither, by wishing the bread and butter she eat might choak her if guilty. The two daughters were tried before Sir Henry Hobbert, chief justice of the Common Pleas, and Sir Edward Bromley, one of the Barons of Exchequer, confessed their guilt, and were executed at Lincoln, March 11, 1618-19.

George was created seventh Earl in 1632; and was honoured with a visit from king Charles, at Belvoir Castle, in July, 1634.

The eighth Earl was John Manners, who was born in 1604, and came to the Belvoir estates after the death of the preceding earl. Attaching himself to the Parliamentarians, he thereby involved his castle in the consequences of attack from the royal army. It was occasionally garrisoned by each party; and, in the struggles for victory, the place must have materially suffered. October 25, 1645, the Earl of Rutland represented to the House of Peers, "that he hath had his whole estate, in Lyncolne,

Leycester, Nottingham, and Yorkeshire, possessed by the enemy from the beginning of these unhappy wars, his houses spoiled, and not received any of his rents, whereby he is put to great streights for maintenance of his family ; beside, was left in much debt by the late earl of Rutland, which since is so much augmented, that the pressure is heavy upon him. Now so it is, that the Lord Viscount Campden hath been a principal instrument in the ruin of the petitioner's castle, lands, and woods, about Belvoyre, ever since the first taking thereof, being a chief commander there, and to the damage of the petitioner above 20,000l." The lords recommended this petition to the house of commons; and it was agreed by both houses, " That 1500l. a year be allowed and paid to the earl of Rutland, for his present subsistence out of the Lord Viscount Campden's estate, until 5000l. be levied out of the said estate, to the use of the said earl of Rutland." To describe the various events that occurred at Belvoir castle during the civil wars, would occupy too much space.

John, the third son of the above nobleman, succeeded his father in these estates, &c. in 1679, when he became the ninth earl. He was married three times ; was particularly attached to the castle of Belvoir ; and spent a sort of rural life here. Though he declined appearing at court, the Queen advanced him to the titles of Marquis of Granby, in the county of Nottingham, and Duke of Rutland. He died here in January, 1710-11, and was buried at Bottesford, when the Rev. Mr. Felton preached a sermon, which was afterwards published, and which contains some account of the family, with a panegyric on the deceased duke. On the death of the preceding nobleman, John his son, succeeded to the title of duke, and obtained the connected estates. He had two wives : the first bore him five sons and four daughters, and the second six sons. He was

succeeded in the titles, &c. by John, the eldest son, February 22, 1720-1. This was the last of the Rutland family who made Haddon in Derbyshire, an occasional residence; and is said to have built the present hunting-seat at Croxton Park, about the year 1730. He also made some improvements at Belvoir, about the year 1750; died May 29, 1779; and was buried at Bottesford. He was succeeded by his grandson, Charles Lord Ros, fourth duke, who died lord lieutenant of Ireland, October 24, 1787, when his son John Henry, the present and fifth duke, came to the possession of the titles and estates.

About three miles north of Belvoir is **BOTTESFORD**, a village situated on the river Devon, in the vale of Belvoir, and adjoining the two counties of Nottingham and Lincoln. The church is a large handsome structure, consisting of a nave, a spacious chancel, two aisles, and north and south transepts. At the west end is a tower, with a lofty ornamented spire; this church having been the burial place of the Manners family since the Dissolution, contains several handsome monuments to their memory.

These monuments, though formerly neglected, are now carefully preserved; the Reverend William Mounsey having, during his curacy here, laudably appropriated his leisure time to clean and repair them, and to his exemplary care is to be ascribed their present respectable condition. "No monumental inscription (says Mr. Nichols) is yet placed in memory of either of the four Dukes of Rutland, or the great Marquis of Granby, who were all buried at Bottesford with their ancestors."

Bottesford is a place supposed to have been a Roman station from the many antiquities which have been found here.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about two miles to the south-west of Croxton Kyriell, and on the left of our road, is Croxton Park, the seat of the Duchess Dowager of Leeds; two miles beyond which is **WALTHAM-ON-THE-WOLD**, a small market-

town situated in a hilly, barren, heathy tract. This town has a Charity-school, also a market on Thursday. It contains 93 houses, and 512 inhabitants.

At the distance of five miles from Waltham-on-the-Wold, is MELTON MOWBRAY, a small well-built market town, situated in a vale, on the banks of the river Eye. The Church is a large handsome structure, consisting of a nave, aisles, transepts, chancel, tower in the centre, and a handsome porch at the west end, which is a peculiar feature in the building, having an elegant doorway with ogie arch; also two niches on each side, and two ornamented windows. Above this porch is the large western window, consisting of five lights, with four lofty mullions, and some decorated tracery, and over the aisles is a series of clerestory windows, of three lights each. The whole church is crowned with an embattled parapet, at each angle of which is a crocketed pinnacle. The tower consists of two stories above the church, of good proportion, and handsome architecture. In the lower tier are three lancet-shaped windows in each front, with long slender columns, having central bands, and plain circular capitals. The upper tier is of a different and later style of architecture, the summit being adorned with eight purfled pinnacles, and a richly-perforated and embattled balustrade. At the north-east angle is a circular staircase projecting beyond the square of the tower. In the north side of the chancel is an embattled vestry, with the date of 1532 over its eastern window, in which are some fragments, and figures of painted glass; and in the church-yard are some fine specimens of Christopher Staveley's letter-carving on slate.

On the north side of the chancel is an embattled vestry, with the date of 1532 over its eastern window. Here are some fragments, and figures of painted glass. Among the monumental inscriptions is one to "ROBERT HUDSON, Esq. citizen of London, and

of St. Mary Bothaw; was born in this town, 1570; founded the hospital adjoining to the church, 1640; and died 1641." Several others of the Hudson family were interred here. In the south aisle, commonly called Digby's Aile, is an effigy of a cross-legged knight, in a round helmet of mail, with a band, his shield on his left arm, bearing a lion rampant. Over him in modern characters, "This is the LORD HAMON BELER, brother to the Lord Mowbray."

The poor of this town are benefited by several charitable benefactions; and among these are some public schools. As early as the reign of Henry the Third, we find these taken under the immediate patronage of that monarch. A large building was erected in 1795, to be appropriated to a free-school for girls.

This town has given birth to the following eminent public characters. JOHN DE KIRKBY, who was canon of Wells and York, dean of Winburn, archdeacon of Coventry, and in 1272 he was made keeper of the great seal. In 1283 he was constituted lord high treasurer of England. He was presented to the bishoprick of Ely in 1286, and died in 1290, when he was interred before the altar of his own cathedral. To this bishop the subsequent prelates of Ely have been indebted for their London residence; as he bequeathed, for their use, "his manor-house, a capital messuage, with some cottages in the village of Holbourn, in the suburbs of London."

WILLIAM DE MELTON, provost of Beverley, and afterwards archbishop of York, was a person of distinction in the early part of the fourteenth century. He was appointed, by Edward the Second, lord high treasurer of England in 1325: and Edward the Third made him lord chancellor in 1334. He died at Cawood in 1340, and was interred near the western end of his cathedral church, where his coffin, &c. were discovered on new paving that edifice.

JOHN HENLEY, better known by the popular appellation of Orator Henley, was born here, August 3, 1692. Few public characters ever excited more notoriety than the one now under consideration; for, by a prolific pen and flippant tongue, he wrote and descanted on almost every popular subject of the day. Public men, and public measures, were treated with a boldness and freedom of language, that provoked astonishment and curiosity. It will be impossible to delineate the varied characteristics and proceedings of this man, in the limited space which is necessarily confined to this work; but in detailing the following particulars, we hope to experience the approbation of the reader: For whenever it becomes necessary to discuss and decide on the merits of public characters, it should be done with freedom and discrimination. John Henley has furnished us with ample data for writing a copious memoir and character of him, in his own "Oratory Transactions." Whence it appears, that ambition was his ruling passion; and this impelled him, in all his scholastic proceedings, to aim at pre-eminence. He was generally head boy, or captain, in each school, and acquired a considerable knowledge of languages, &c. When at College, he still persevered in his studies; and there displayed some traits of that spirit which afterwards excited so much popularity. "He here began to be uneasy," says Mr. Nichols: "he was impatient that systems of all sorts were put into his hands; and that he incurred the danger of losing his interest, and the scandal of heterodoxy, if (as his genius led him) he freely disputed all propositions, &c. He was always impatient under those fetters of the free-born mind; and privately determined, some time or other, to enter his protest against any person's being bred like a slave, who is born an Englishman. Here he also observed, that the space of four years was employed on the forming of such qualifications as might be mastered, to more perfection, in a fourth part of the time. He likewise found it was a great

defect that, though he was brought up for a clergyman, he was not instructed to preach, or pray, or read prayers, or speak, or catechise, or confer, or resolve a case of conscience, or understand the scriptures, or form any natural and clear idea of the Christian religion. He determined, therefore, some time to lay a foundation for removing such a complaint, that men might be educated for their proper business, and not be under the greatest disadvantages in that station where they ought to be most excellent." The man of bold and independent mind, who publicly arraigns established prejudices, old customs, and great abuses, will inevitably excite numerous enemies ; but he is also likely to produce some good. This is manifested in the example before us ; for when Henley gave full scope to his powers, he often repressed the obtrusions of folly, and checked the career of vice ; though in doing this, he generally committed such absurdities as tended to counteract the efficacy of his satire. After leaving the University, where he was admired for his proficiency, but hated for his licentiousness, he officiated for some time as vicar of the church, and master of the grammar-school of Melton. During his stay here he published some sermons, and other works ; but deserting his native town, he sought the metropolis, as a theatre more adapted for the exercise and exertion of his talents. Here he soon obtained popularity, by the character of his discourses, and the powerful action with which he delivered them. In a contest for the lectureship of St. John's chapel, near Bedford Row, it is said that the declamatory and theatrical style (as commonly called) of his delivery, excited the disapproval of the congregation, and that another person was elected. Provoked at this he rushed into the vestry room, and exclaimed, " Blockheads ! are you qualified to judge of the degree of action necessary for a preacher of God's word ?—Were you able to read, or had sufficient sense, ye sorry knaves, to understand the most renowned orator of antiquity, he

would tell you that the great, almost the only requisite for a public speaker, was action, action, action.—But I despise, and defy you; *provoco ad populum*; the people shall decide between us.” This circumstance probably gave origin to his public lectures; for he soon afterwards advertised that he should ‘hold forth’ publicly twice a week. For this purpose he hired a large room in Newport Market, which he called *The Oratory*. Here he delivered, on Sundays, a theological discourse in the morning, and a lecture in the evening. Every Wednesday he also gave lectures on the sciences, and on various miscellaneous subjects. He next took a room near Lincoln’s Inn Fields, contiguous to the great Catholic chapel, and called it “*The Little Catholic Chapel*.” By quaint and occasionally witty advertisements and handbills, he announced his lectures; and generally attracted a numerous audience. The prices of admission were sixpence and one shilling each person. A syllabus of his lectures was also published, containing a long list of the various topics on which he proposed to descant during a course. The distinguishing characteristics of Henley in his lectures were, “to play round the surface of a subject, without puzzling his hearers by deep argument, solid learning, or abstruse speculation; to excite curiosity by singularity and extravagance; to provoke mirth sometimes by broad humour, and occasionally by barefaced impudence; to treat public men and public measures with sarcasm, personality, satire, and buffoonery.” When Lord Chesterfield was secretary of state, Henley was arrested, and brought before the privy council; but, careless and unabashed, he there indulged in his usual freedom of language, and was at length dismissed with a reprimand. Among other public characters whom he attacked, was Alexander Pope, who retaliated in the following terms, in that severely satirical poem of his called the ‘*Dunciad*.’

—“Imbrow’n’d with native bronze, see Henley stands,
Tuning his voice, and balancing his hands.

How fluent nonsense trickles from his tongue !
How sweet the periods neither said nor sung ;
O great restorer of the good old stage,
Preacher at once, and zanny of thy age !
O worthy thou of Egypt's wise abodes ;
A decent priest where monkeys were the gods !"—

Henley died October 24, 1756 ; and his collection of MS. lectures, common-place books, sermons, &c. amounting to about 200 volumes, was sold by public auction, June 12—15, 1759.

Connected with this town are three bridges over the rivers Eye and Scalford. These are repaired, and the streets are preserved in good condition, with lamps, &c. from the rents arising out of the town estates.

The ancient bridge, at the extremity of Melton Mowbray, leading to Oakham, was taken down in the summer of 1820, in order for the erection of one more spacious and convenient in its room.

In this town are several charitable benefactions, and among these are some public schools, which as early as the reign of Henry the Third, were taken under the immediate patronage of that monarch.—In the year 1795 a large building was erected as a free-school for girls.

It appears by the parish register, that in the year 1658, and some following years, the publication of banns was announced at the market-cross here, and that two justices of the peace performed the marriage ceremony. In this town is a manor oven, 14 feet in diameter, the possessor of which, about the middle of the last century, endeavoured to compel all the inhabitants to bake their bread in it : but the towns-people refused to comply, and established another oven of larger dimensions.

Melton Mowbray is situated 105 miles from London, and contains 422 houses, and 2145 inhabitants. Its market, which is on Tuesday, is one of the largest in England for cattle.

On the 25th of February, 1644-5, a severe battle

took place near this town, between Sir Marmaduke Langdale, who commanded the royalists, and a party of the parliamentary troops, under the command of Colonel Rossiter.

At the distance of about four miles from Melton Mowbray, we pass through the village of FRISBY. Here is an ancient stone cross with ornamental mouldings on the shaft, standing on three steps; and, at a small distance from the village, at a place called Frisby Hags, is another shaft, on four circular steps, and known by the name of Stump Cross.

Two miles from Frisby, is BROOKSBY, formerly a village, though now reduced to a gentleman's house and farm. This demense belonged to the Villiers family for many generations. Of this family was George Villiers, first Duke of Buckingham, who was born here on the 28th of August, 1592, and whose name is memorable in English history for having been the favourite of two kings, &c. He was the youngest son of Sir George Villiers, by a second wife, Mary, daughter of Anthony Beaumont, Esq. of Cole Orton, in this county. In his youth he received a liberal education, and was particularly instructed in dancing, fencing, and other polite accomplishments.— Having travelled into France for further improvement in these genteel exercises, he returned at the age of 21 to his native country, when, by the beauty of his person, and the politeness of his address, he soon attracted the notice of his majesty King James I. who was apt to be struck with superficial endowments.

His first place at court was that of cup bearer to the king; from whence he rose, by a quick and rapid progress, to be gentleman of the bed-chamber, master of the horse, knight of the garter, baron of Whaddon, Viscount Villiers, Earl and Marquis of Buckingham, lord high admiral of England, chief justice in Eyre, master of the King's bench, steward of Westminster, constable of Windsor-Castle, earl of Coventry, and last of all Duke of Buckingham.

He proved himself one of those supple and insinuating courtiers who can condescend to flatter the vices or follies of a monarch, or any person of superior fortune, to promote his own interests. This, Villiers did to an amazing extent, and was progressively advanced in dignity from a commoner to a dukedom. Sir Henry Wotton quaintly remarks, that favours poured upon him “liker main showers, than sprinkling drops or dews.”

Of this extraordinary personage Hume gives the following character, by stating that he “governed with an uncontrolled sway, both the court and nation; and could James’s eyes have been opened, he had now full opportunity of observing how unfit his favourite was to the high station to which he was raised. Some accomplishments of a courtier he possessed, of every talent of a minister, he was utterly devoid: headlong in his passions, and incapable equally of prudence or of dissimulation, sincere from violence rather than candour, expensive from profusion more than generosity, a warm friend, a furious enemy, but without any choice or discernment in either. With these qualities he had early and quickly mounted to the highest rank, and partook at once of the insolence which attends a fortune newly acquired, and the impetuosity which belongs to persons born in high stations and unacquainted with opposition. Among those who had experienced the arrogance of this overgrown favourite, the Prince of Wales himself, had not been entirely spared: and a great coldness, if not an enmity, had, for that reason, taken place between them.” Such is the character of an eminent statesman, who exercised those passions and powers for many years. The House of Commons at length had courage to impeach him, and charged him with having united many offices in his own person (a crime that still seems very prevalent); of having bought two of them; of neglecting to guard the seas, in consequence of which several merchant ships had been taken by the enemy; of de-

livering ships to the French king, in order to serve against the Huguenots; of being employed in the sale of honours and offices; of accepting extensive grants from the crown; of procuring many titles of honour for his kindred; and of administering physic to the late king, without acquainting his physicians. Another charge was, that of extorting 10,000*l.* from the East India company, &c. The impeachment never came to a determination; and the validity of the charges are left for the investigation and decision of the historian, who being enabled to review past events untrammelled by partiality, bribery, or fear, may, with tolerable safety, pronounce sentence of condemnation, or acquittal, on this public plunderer, as well as on many others. Villiers was at length assassinated by Felton in 1628, and interred in Henry the Seventh's chapel at Westminster. His son, George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, was a distinguished profligate in the licentious court of King Charles the Second; and, as a consummation and just reward of his vicious career, died a beggar. He was author of "The Rehearsal," and distinguished himself by his wit and talents as well as by his vices.

The elder Buckingham accompanied prince Charles to Spain in 1623, in order to make up the long depending match between him and the Infanta of that kingdom. On the death of King James, and the accession of King Charles, he continued to enjoy the same degree of favour with the son which he had so long possessed under the father. His spirit and his ambition were equal to his high fortune; for being sent to Paris, in order to conduct to England the Princess Henrietta Maria, the king's intended consort, he had the presumption to make his addresses to the Queen Dowager, of France; and, being thwarted in his views, engaged his sovereign, by way of revenge, in a war with that kingdom. But he lived not to see the issue of it; for having now become universally odious to the people, he was suddenly cut off by the hands of an assassin; the particulars of which are as follow.

Rochelle in France having been for some time besieged by the French, the earl of Denbigh was dispatched with a fleet to the relief of that place ; but neglecting to attack the French fleet, had returned with dishonour. In order to wipe out this stain, the duke of Buckingham resolved to take the command upon himself, and accordingly repaired to Portsmouth, where the fleet and forces were rendezvoused ; but before he could set out on his expedition, he was murdered. The assassin who committed the horrid deed was one John Felton, a gentleman by birth, who had been a lieutenant of infantry, and disappointed in his expectation of a captain's commission, which Buckingham had promised him, but had bestowed upon another. This man was a fanatic in religion, and his revenge seemed to co-operate with his enthusiasm. The duke was walking with Sir Thomas Fryar through an entry in the house where he lodged, that led from one apartment to another, when Felton, who by some means or other had got admittance into the house, coming behind him, stabbed him with a knife, which he left sticking in the wound. The Duke immediately exclaimed, "The villain hath killed me !" and, pulling out the knife, dropped down and expired on the floor. The assassin, instead of endeavouring to make his escape, seemed to rejoice in his crime, and immediately surrendered himself to justice. Thus fell, in the flower of life, being only 36 years of age, George Villiers, duke of Buckingham, whose rise was sudden, his promotions rapid, and his end untimely. The chief misfortunes which attended this great man proceeded from jealousy in others, who thought the extensive power he enjoyed dangerous to the rights of a free people. He was of a noble and generous disposition, and seldom studied to conceal his resentments. His courage was great, but it sometimes carried him to impolitic lengths ; for if he had a little yielded to the times, and withdrawn from those storms he could neither prevent nor allay, he might, perhaps, have

found a milder fate than that which befel him on the 23rd of August, in the year 1628.

Clarendon, after giving an account of this great favourite, remarks, that there were several prophecies and predictions scattered about concerning the duke's death; among which he mentions one, which, from its singularity, and the respectability of the narrator, may not prove uninteresting to our readers; we shall therefore relate it in his own words.

“There was (says he) an officer in the king's wardrobe in Windsor-Castle, of a good reputation for honesty and discretion, and then about the age of 50 years or more. This man had been bred in his youth in a school in the parish where Sir George Villiers, the father of the duke, had lived, and had been much cherished and obliged in that season of his age by the said George, whom afterwards he never saw. About six months before the miserable end of the duke of Buckingham, about midnight, this man, being in his bed at Windsor, where his office was, and in very good health, there appeared to him, on the side of his bed, a man of very venerable aspect, who, fixing his eyes upon him, asked him if he knew him: the poor man, half dead with fear and apprehension, being asked the second time whether he remembered him, and having in that time called to his memory Sir George Villiers, and the clothes he used to wear, answered, that he thought him to be that person. He replied, that he was in the right, that he was the same, and that he expected a service from him; which was, that he should go from him to his son, the duke of Buckingham, and tell him, that if he did not do something to ingratiate himself with the people, or at least to abate the extreme malice they had against him, he would be suffered to live but a short time. After this discourse he disappeared, and the poor man slept very well till the morning, when he believed all this to be a dream, and considered it no otherwise.

“Next night, or shortly after, the same person ap-

peared to him again in the same place, and about the same time of the night, with an aspect a little more severe than before ; and asking him whether he had done as he required him, and perceiving he had not, he gave him very severe reprehensions, and told him he expected more compliance from him ; and that, if he did not perform his commands, he should enjoy no peace of mind, but should be always pursued by him. But the next morning waking extremely perplexed with the lively representations of all that had passed, he considered that he was a person at such a distance from the duke, that he knew not how to find admittance into his presence, much less any hope to be believed in what he should say ; and therefore, with great trouble and disquietude, he spent some days in thinking what he should do.

“ The commands of the nocturnal visitor not being complied with, he attended a third time, with a much more severe countenance than he had shewn before, and reprehended him in much harsher terms. When the poor man had a little recovered from his fright, he told him, “ That in truth he had deferred the execution of his commands upon considering how difficult a thing it would be for him to get access to the duke, not having acquaintance with any person about him ; and if he could gain admission to him, he should never be able to persuade him that he was sent in such a manner, but he should at best be thought to be mad, or to be set on and employed by his own, or the malice of other men, to abuse the duke, and so he should be sure to be undone.” The person replied, as he had done before, that he should never find rest till he should perform what he required, and therefore he were better to dispatch it ; that the access to his son was known to be very easy ; that few men waited long for him ; and for the gaining him credit, he would tell him two or three particulars, which he charged him never to mention to any person living, but to the duke himself ; and he should no sooner hear them but he would believe all the rest he

should say ; and so, repeating his threats, he left him.

“ In the morning the poor man, more confirmed by the last appearance, made his journey to London, where the court then was. He was very well known to Sir Ralph Freeman, one of the masters of the requests, who had married a lady that was nearly allied to the duke. To him he went, and though he did not acquaint him with all the particulars, he said enough to let him see there was something extraordinary in it ; and the knowledge he had of the sobriety and discretion of the man, made the more impression on him. He desired that by his means he might be brought to the duke to such a place, and in such a manner as should be thought fit ; affirming that he had much to say to him, and of such a nature as would require much privacy, and some time and patience in the hearing.

“ Sir Ralph promised he would speak to the duke of him, and then he should understand his pleasure. Accordingly, he took the first opportunity of acquainting the duke with the reputation and honesty of the man, and then what he desired, and all he knew of the matter. The duke, according to his usual openness and condescension, told him, that he was the next day, early, to hunt with the king ; and that his horses should attend him at Lambeth-Ferry, where he would be by five o'clock in the morning, and if the man attended him there at that hour, he would walk with him as long as should be necessary.

“ The next morning Sir Ralph went with the man and presented him to the duke, who received him courteously, and walked aside in conference with him near an hour. Only his own servants and Sir Ralph were near the place, but at such a distance that they could not hear a single word, though the duke sometimes spoke with great commotion ; which was more particularly perceived by Sir Ralph, from his keeping his eyes constantly fixed upon the duke.

“ After the conference was over, and the duke had parted from the man, the latter told Sir Ralph that when he mentioned those particulars which were to give him credit, the substance whereof he said he durst not impart to him, the duke’s colour changed, and he swore he could come by that knowledge only from the devil, for that those particulars were known only to himself and one person more, who he was sure would never speak of it.

“ The duke pursued his course of hunting, but was observed to ride all the morning with great pensiveness, and in deep thought, without any delight in the exercise he was upon ; and before the evening was spent, he left the field, and retired to his mother’s lodgings at Whitehall. He continued in converse with her several hours, the noise of their discourse frequently reaching the ears of those who attended in the adjoining rooms ; and when the duke left her, he appeared full of trouble, with a mixture of anger in his countenance, which was never before observed after a conversation with his mother, towards whom he paid the most profound reverence. The countess herself, on the duke’s leaving her was found overwhelmed with tears, and in the greatest agony imaginable.

“ Whatever there was in all this (continues our author) it is a notorious truth, that when the news of the duke’s murder (which happened within a few months) was brought to his mother, she seemed not in the least degree surprised, but received it as if she had foreseen it ; nor did she afterwards express such a degree of sorrow as was expected from such a mother for the loss of such a son.”

About two miles to the north of Brooksby is the small village of RAKEDALE, anciently called Ragdale ; in the church-yard of which is a stone cross, consisting of a shaft raised on steps, and surmounted with a perforated cross. Here is also a large mansion, now occupied by a farmer under Earl Ferrers, to whom the whole of the village belongs. Over the

entrance porch, which was built about the year 1629 is a large coat of arms, carved in stone, with 50 quarterings. In this house, Robert first Earl of Ferrers frequently resided, and kept his kawks here, in a room which still remains, and wherein is the stone trough from which they were fed. In the year 1785, a modern house was erected here, called Rakedale Hall. It is situated on an eminence, and commands some extensive and diversified views ; and the interior contains a few cabinet pictures.

Returning to our road, at the distance of two miles from Brooksby, is the small village of Rearsby, about one mile to the north of which is RADCLIFFE-ON-THE-WREKE, a village situated on the river Wreke, near the place where the ancient foss-road crossed it. In this parish is a large tumulus, called Shipley Hill, which Dr. Stukely attributes to a Celtic origin, while Mr. Carte supposes it to have been raised as a monument to the memory of a Danish king. The earl of Ferrers, in a letter to Mr. Nichols, however, differs from both these conjectures by stating that, " the hill is lately proved to be the wonderful work of nature, not of art ; and has been produced by some uncommon surflux of the river Wreke. It was cut open a few years past, and found to contain strata of gravel and red marle, evidently washed together by some extraordinary vortex of the river, or waters making strands round it ; which are very perceptible. There are strata of different sorts of earth, first soil, then gravel, marle, red and white ; some little blue marle, mixture of gravel, &c. but all evidently appear to have been the work of Providence, not of man. This hill is close to the river," &c. Another correspondent of Mr. Nichols's states " that it does not appear likely that any part of it can be washed away, for it is a furlong at least from the Wreke." Its contiguity to the Roman road, its shape, and there being other hillocks, of a similar character at different places near this Roman way are however circumstances that induce one to be

lieve it as artificially, and thence to conclude it to be a barrow or tumulus.

At the distance of two miles from Rearsby is SYSTON, one of the most populous villages in the county. On the western side of this village is a brook, over which, in the year 1797, a bridge was erected, which was begun and completed in nine days, by three bricklayers and their six labourers, and from the rapidity of its execution has been since called the *Nine Days' Wonder*. The quantity of materials used in this bridge was 25,000 bricks, and 150 tons weight of stone.

The church is a large structure, consisting of a nave, aisles, chancel, and a square tower. A chantry was founded in this church, by William Grendell, priest, for one priest to sing mass and perform other service, for which he was to receive 3l. 11s. 2d. arising out of lands and tenements.

In the parish register of this village, which begins in 1594, are the following singular entries, which illustrate the customs, expenses, &c. of former times. " 1597, paid to the armour dresser, 3s. 4d. also for the town sword 7s. 1599, paid to Peter Pollard for helping to drive away the *town bull*, that was sold, 1d. Paid for a bull 30s. Paid for another bull 40s. 6d. 1600, paid to Thomas Pollard for moving the *bull hooke*, 12d. 1601, Old Julien Rivette, widow, bequeathed by will 12d. upon the church, which was bestowed upon painting the church porch and oiling the same. 1601, spent at Leicester, when we were summoned to appear at the court, for that some of the priests had wrought on St. Bartholomew's day, 12d. 1602, paid to Lord Morden's players, because they *should not play in the church*, 12d. 1602, harvest late, barley not got in before Saint Matthew's day, and on that day no peas nor beans were got in Syston. 1603, a pound of good hops sold for 2s. 8d. a strike of malt 17d. and a strike of wheat 2s. 4d. 1606, grinding was so scant, either by water or wind, that at the feast of St. Luke, the

people came from Hinkley to Syston to grind their corn. 1609, at *Loughborough* 500 people died of the plague."

About two miles to the north of Syston is **SILBY**, a large and populous village, in which were formerly two ancient mansion houses, one belonging to the Sherrard family, and the other to that of Pochin. The church, which is built of stone, is ornamented with much sculpture, and consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, porch, and tower; the latter of which is handsome, having puffed pinnacles, with ornamental buttresses. It was originally appropriate to the Abbey of St. Ebrulph in Normandy, which was suppressed by king Henry the Vth. but in the subsequent reign, John, duke of Norfolk, obtained a patent from the King to appropriate this church to St. Mary's Priory, in the isle of Axholme, in the county of Lincoln. Here is a free school and three other large schools.

About a mile beyond Syston we enter the foss-road leading from Leicester to Newark, and, after passing through the small village of 'Thurmaston, arrive at the town of Leicester, on leaving which we proceed in a south-westerly direction, and at the distance of about two miles, pass on our left Branston Hall, the seat of Clement Winstanley, Esq. The house, which was built about the year 1775, is a neat plain edifice, situated in a part of the county that is finely wooded.

At Kirkby Muloe, a small village, about four miles from Leicester, and on the right of our road, are the ruins of an old mansion, formerly moated round, and having towers at the angles. This house is traditionally said to have been built by Lord Hastings, as a place of refuge for Jane Shore. It is certain that this estate and lordship was in the possession of the Hastings family for many generations.

At the distance of about eight miles from Leicester, and on the right of our road, is Tooley Park, formerly belonging to the honour of Leicester, and

attached to the castle of Earl's Shilton, when the Earls of Leicester resided there; it is now chiefly disparked and appropriated to the purpose of farming.

One mile beyond Tooley park, on our road, is the village of EARL'S SHILTON, formerly distinguished by its Norman castle, but which is now entirely destroyed, and is site only denoted by a mount, and a place called the Castle-yard, or Hall-yard. The court-leet belonging to this manor (says Burton) "is of large extent, to which the revenue of 25 towns belongs." This manor is now accounted part of the duchy of Lancaster, and has been so ever since Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester, was slain at the battle of Evesham, upon which all his lands were given by Henry III. to Edmund Crouckback, Earl of Lancaster, his second son.

At the distance of about four miles from Earl's Shilton, we arrive at the town of Hinckley, which has been already described in a former part of the volume.

*Journey from Leicester to Market Harborough;
through Kibworth.*

On leaving Leicester, we proceed in a southeasterly direction, and at the distance of about three miles pass through the village of OADBY, whose buildings extend near a mile in length. The church, which is large, contains some specimens of ancient sculpture; and in the chancel are two stone seats and a piscina.

About one mile to the east of Oadby is STRETTON MAGNA, sometimes called Bishop's Stretton (from Robert Eyrick, a bishop of Chester, who was born here.) This hamlet is situated on the Roman road, whence it derives its name of Stretton, or Streeton. Here is a good manor-house, built by one of the family of the Hewets, who resided at it till the death of the late William Hewet, Esq. in the year 1766. This gentleman, on his settlement at this place, planted a large quantity of acorns, which

he is said to have disposed in the form of the colonnade before St. Peter's at Rome.

At CARLETON, or Carleton-Curlieu, a village situated about three miles to the south-east of Stretton, is an old mansion, called Carleton Curlieu Hall. This house is a curious old building, in the style commonly called Queen Elizabeth's Gothic; in the front are three projections, with three tiers or stories of windows, and terminated at the top with escaloped pediments similar to the street-front of University College, Oxford.

In the church is an alabaster tomb, on which are the effigies of a man in armour, and his lady, with two inscriptions in Latin, to the memory of Sir John Ball, who died in the year 1621, and Frances his wife, who died in 1629, aged 80.

About two miles to the east of Carleton is the village of NOSELY, where is an old manor-house, called Nosely hall, belonging to the Hesilrige family, which was much enlarged, and nearly rebuilt, by Sir Arthur Hesilrige, Bart. who being an admirer of the fine arts, passed a considerable time in Rome, and other parts of Italy, from whence he brought home many pictures and antiques, which he placed in this house, afterwards occupied by a farmer.

Among these pictures were the following: A large portrait of Peter the Great, painted when he was in England in 1698. A portrait of the late Sir Arthur Hesilrige, in the Green parlour, where are some other pictures painted by Francisco Trevisani, at Rome, in 1723. A full length of Buffardin, who was musician to the King of Poland, with two listening females. Portraits of Albano, Rembrandt, Pietro de Testa, Raffael, Michael Angelo, and Titian. Large portraits of George Villiers, first duke of Buckingham; and of Henry Rich, first Earl of Holland. In the dining room are six views of different subjects in and near Rome. Full length of Caianus, a Swede, æt. 27, painted by E. Seaman; he was seven feet ten inches high, and was shewn at the king's theatre in

London, in 1734. Two small portraits of King Charles the First and his Queen: a whole length portrait of Oliver Cromwell in armour. His head is uncovered, and an attendant at his side is tying his sash. Besides these, here are a great number of portraits, landscapes, and other pictures. Part of the house is now occupied by a farmer; but the principal rooms are fast hastening to decay.

Nosely Church is a large structure, consisting of a nave and chancel of the same height and width.—In the eastern window is some painted glass, representing some of the apostles, with scrolls and coats of arms; and in the chancel are three stone seats and a piscina. Here is likewise a very elegant font, ornamented with pannelled compartments, tracery, foliated pinnacles, pediments, &c. besides which several monuments and inscriptions to the memory of the Hesilrige family. This church, with the tithes, was formerly given by Hugo de Grentemaisnell to the abbey and convent of St. Ebrulph.

Leland says, at Nosely, “is a collegiate paroch church of three priests, two clerkes, and four choristers. Nosely longeth to the Blaketes; and an heire generale of them, about Edward the Third’s tyme, was married to one Roger Mortevalle, that foundid the litle college of Nosely. This Nosely and other landes thereabout, cam onto too doughters of one of the Morteilles, whereof one was married onto Hughe Hastings, the other was a nunne, and alienid much of her parte. After this Nosely by an heire generele cam in mariage to Hesilrig, in which name it dothe yet remayne. The name of Hesilrig cam out of Scotlende”

In the chancel of the Church is a large tombstone of black and white marble, with the effigies of three persons; a man in armour, and two women. On the pedestal are the figures of twelve persons kneeling, the children of Sir Arthur Hesilrige by his two wives, as described in the following inscription:

“Here lyes SIR ARTHUR HESILRIGE, Baronet,

who enjoyed his portion of this life in ye time of greatest civill troubles yt ever this nation had. He was a lover of liberty, and faithful to his country. He delighted in sober company; and departed this life, 7th of January, in England's peaceable year, Anno Dom. 1660.—Here lyes DAME FRANCES HESILRIGE, daughter of Thomas Elmes, of Lilford, in ye county of Northampton, Esq. She was charitable, prudent, virtuous, and a loving wife. Sir Arthur Hesilrige had by her two sons and two daughters. She dyed in ye year 1632. Here lies DAME-DOROTHEA HESILRIGE, sister to Robert Greevill, Lord Brooke, and Baron of Beauchamps-Court. God gave to her true and great wisdom, and a large and just heart: she did much good in her generation. Sir Arthur Hesilrige had by her three sons and five daughters. She left this life ye 28 of January, 1650."

In the chancel is another *monument*, with recumbent effigies of Sir THOMAS HESILRIGE, Knt. and "dame Frances" his wife; and on the pediment are the kneeling statues of eight sons and six daughters. Here are monuments and inscriptions to other persons of the same family.

About three miles to the south of Nosely is CHURCH LANGTON, a village pleasantly situated on an eminence, and particularly marked in the annals of benevolence, from the charitable character of the late Rev. William Hanbury, who was rector of Langton, where he resided for many years.—"Amidst the numerous plans, proposals, and schemes (says Mr. Nichols) offered to the public, for relieving distress, encouraging merit, promoting virtue, exciting industry, and propagating religion, none has appeared in the present age more extensive, benevolent, and disinterested, than the charities projected, and in some degree established, by the late Reverend Mr. Hanbury; which justly entitled him to the thanks, esteem, and patronage of his cotemporaries, and have ensured him the veneration of posterity. These charities, as the public-spirited founder in-

forms us, owed their origin to his natural genius and inclination for planting and gardening ;” for the great object and speculations of Mr. Hanbury was to raise and cultivate very extensive plantations ; the profits of the sale of which were to be applied to decorating and rebuilding the church, providing an organ and school, establishing a public library here, erecting an hospital for 60 poor women, founding professors of grammar, music, botany, mathematics, antiquity, poetry, and a printing-house, and augmenting small livings, the deeds for all which were executed and enrolled in Chancery in the year 1767. Thus, “ with a firmness of mind equal to the benevolence of his heart (says a modern writer), Mr. Hanbury seemed, in the course of about twenty years, to have brought to the utmost degree of maturity and stability, human affairs are capable of, this singular undertaking of raising from a plantation of all the various trees, plants, &c. the world produces, a yearly fund of 10,000*l.* ; sufficient to relieve the distressed, instruct the ignorant, assist the curious, adorn the parish, and benefit this and the neighbouring county of Rutland, as long as integrity and public spirit subsists in Britain, or dare to defy singularity and censure.

When only twenty-six years of age, Mr. Hanbury informs us he commenced his plan in first cultivating an acquaintance with gardeners, seedsmen, &c. and thereby acquiring the best practical knowledge of the nature, properties, and value, of seeds and plants. This not satisfying his ardent mind, he established a correspondence abroad, and obtained from North America, and other distant countries, a great variety of seeds, &c. “ All the time,” he observes, “ I was employed in settling this correspondence, - was very busy in preparing the ground for the reception of the seeds of all sorts, together with a spot for the planting of such trees as were to be headed down, for what gardeners call *stools*, in order for their throwing out fresh shoots for layering. Two

years closely employed me in the different parts of such necessary preparations, and by the spring of 1753, the seminary was completed, by containing a very large quantity of almost every seed that could be procured; besides, a large spot of ground was planted over with such trees and shrubs as are propagated in the vimeneous manner." Soon after Mr. Hanbury found his plants increased to such an extent, that he wanted additional room to transplant them in.

He therefore applied for a small close which was part of the glebe, but in which the parish had a right of common after the hay was cleared off. All the parishioners, but two, Mrs. *Pickering*, and Mrs. *Byrd*, agreed to allow the worthy clergyman this piece of land, and the two ladies partly consented. Mr. Hanbury fancying himself secure, prepared the ground and planted it in the spring, with about 20,000 young trees of different sorts; but either envy, jealousy, or some worse passion, operated on the two ladies, and some of their dependants, and impelled them to claim their right of common, and the moment "the harvest was in, their tenants' cattle were turned in amongst the young trees, and in a moment destroyed them all. Neither was this all, I was," says Mr. Hanbury, "served for a trespass with twenty-seven different copies of a writ in one day. Notwithstanding this," continues the enthusiastic projector, "I rallied again, and in a year or two my nursery at Tur Langton, was planted all over. Firm and unshaken, I closely pursued the main point in view, and by the year 1757, my large plantations at Gumley were all made."

Mr. Nichols, in his History of Leicestershire, confirms the vexatious conduct pursued by Mr. Hanbury's opponents: "In two or three years after, he had a process entered against him in the Spiritual Court, by Thomas Buszard, Churchwarden; but Buszard signed his recantation, March 31, 1766, in which he acknowledged to have been instigated to

act as he did, *not by the Devil*, but by two ladies of great fortune in the parish, Mrs. Pickering and Mrs. Byrd. The conduct of these females towards the benevolent rector, appears either excessively illiberal, cruel, or incomprehensible. In our intercourse with society, we occasionally (and with pleasure be it spoken it is only occasionally,) meet with persons who persist in annoying their neighbours, and thereby popularly debase themselves, by committing and repeating despicable acts in defiance of justice, equity, reason, and public shame."

By Mr. Hanbury's spirited exertions, his plantations, in 1758, were valued at 10,000*l*. He then published proposals for the sale of a large quantity of trees towards the foundation of his Charities. He soon after went to Oxford, and there printed his *Essay on Planting*, dedicated to the University. To give publicity to his favourite plans, he appointed an Oratorio to be performed at Church Langton, in September, 1759, on two succeeding days, which were repeated in the two following years, but the profits were beneath his expectations. In the winter of 1761, the plants from his nurseries produced more than 10,000*l*. This benevolent clergyman was intimate with the Rev. Charles Churchill and Robert Lloyd, whose deaths, in 1763, he particularly deplored. Mr. Hanbury was not only devoted to painting and botany, but music was also a favourite study with him; and on these partialities he was complimented in the following lines :

So sweet thy strain, so thick thy shade,
The pleas'd spectator sees—
'The miracle once more display'd
Of Orpheus and his trees.

The different objects of utility, ornament, &c. that were to arise from Mr. Hanbury's plans; like the poet's visions, were never realized. Different trustees, at various periods, were appointed to execute the trust deeds. The whole of these, with the

schemes of the author, were published in an octavo volume, entitled, "The History of the Rise and Progress of the Charitable Foundations at Church Langton, together with the different Deeds of Trust of that Establishment, by the Rev. Mr. Hanbury, 1767. Mr. Hanbury died in February, 1778, in the fifty third year of his age, and his remains were deposited in a mausoleum near the rectorial house of Church Langton.

The benevolent plans of this gentleman had excited so much publicity that several poems and essays were published in his praise, among which was a poem by William Woty, Esq. entitled, Church Langton, in which the author thus describes the characteristics of this part of the country.

"On yonder broad circumference of ground,
Where chilling clay diffused its damps around,
Within whose bounds no living charin was seen,
No tree to shelter, and no bush to screen,
'The rich plantation now salutes our eyes,
And waves its foliage of enchanting dyes."

Returning again to our road, at the distance of about three miles from Oadby, we pass through the village of **GLEN MAGNA**; one mile to the south-west of which is the village of **WESTOW**, or as it is written in old records **Wistanesto**, **Wystantow**, and **Winstanton**, from **Wiston**, a reputed saint or holy person, to whom the church is dedicated. In this parish is **Wistow Hall**, the seat of the **Halford** family. This place is remarkable from the formal plantations encompassing the mansion, which is built of brick, encased with stucco, and has in the principal front fine gable pediments. The principal room is a large lofty hall, extending near the whole length of the house. Among the pictures here are portraits of **King Charles the First**, and his son **King Charles II.**

About three miles beyond **Glen Magna** is the parish of **KIBWORTH**, consisting of the three hamlets of **Kibworth Beauchampe**, **Kibworth Harcourt**, and

Smeeton Westerby. Kibworth Beauchampe had formerly a weekly market, but it has been long discontinued. Here is a free grammar-school, founded and supported on a liberal plan; but the name of the benefactor, and the time of the foundation, are unknown; a new school-house was however erected in the year 1725. The church, which is seated on an eminence, is spacious, and consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, two porches, and a steeple; the latter of which is lofty and taper, being 53 yards in height.

Near Kibworth Harcourt is an encampment, consisting of a large mount, encompassed with a single ditch, the circumference of which is about 370 feet; and about 200 yards from the meeting-house, is a large barrow raised on elevated ground.

About two miles to the south of Kibworth Harcourt, at the village of Gumley, is Gumley Hall, the seat of Joseph Craddock, Esq. F.R.S. It is a large modern building, and was begun in the year 1764, since which time, the fine plantations, pleasure grounds, &c. have been gradually and progressively improving. At Gumley is a noted mineral spring, which has been mentioned in some very ancient writings, and, from experiments, appears to resemble in some degree the Tunbridge-well water, and its lightness and chalybeate properties at the spring “seem (says Mr. Morris), to be equal, if not superior, to any of our mineral waters in Great Britain.

At the distance of about five miles from Kibworth, on our road, is MARKET HARBOROUGH, a respectable well-built town, consisting of one principal street, two smaller ones, and four lanes: it is situated on the northern bank of the river Welland, at the southern extremity of this county. “This town (says Moreton), with some other road towns, which are now considerable, took their rise from only a single inn. Another writer observes, that it owes its foundation to an Earl of Chester, who resided in Leicester Castle, and built it for the convenience of a lodging place for himself and his retinue

in their passage to and from London. There is great reason, however, to believe, that Harborough has a strong claim to Roman antiquity; for on the east side of the town are traces of an ancient encampment, which from its form is evidently of Roman origin, and at a short distance, both east and west, Roman urns and other pottery have been discovered, and even in the streets an ancient drain was lately found, a few feet below the surface of the earth, which appeared to be of Roman masonry. The most conspicuous remains of the above encampment, are in an old enclosure called the King's head close; it was of a squarish form including about six acres of ground, but the banks and foss are now nearly level with the adjacent lands. In the year 1779 two sepulchral urns were discovered near this spot, and at subsequent times, several fragments of urns, with burnt bones, pieces of pateræ, &c. have been found.

This town being dependent in ecclesiastical affairs on the parish of Great Bowden (a village about one mile to the east), its chief religious structure is only a chapel of ease; this is, however, a large, handsome, and nearly uniform building, consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, with two tiers of windows, two porches, and a tower with a spire; the latter of which is octangular, and ornamented with crokets at each angle.

From the tradition of the inhabitants, and the various arms found in the building, Mr. R. Rouse conjectures that this chapel was built by John of Gaunt; but Mr. Nichols supposes it to have been erected by Geoffrey le Scrope, "whose arms were repeated on the steeple." This chapel is mentioned in the ecclesiastical records of 1344, where it is noticed as being part of the rectory of Great Bowden. Besides the above chapel there are three meeting-houses in this town for Presbyterians Quakers, and Methodists. In the principal street is a large town-hall, and near the chapel is a charity-

school, founded by Mr. Smith. Here is a weekly market on Tuesday.

This town is a very great thoroughfare, the road from London to Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Manchester, &c. running through it; the road enters the town by a ford in the river Welland; there is, however, a bridge, of six arches, adjoining the ford, for the use of carriages, when the floods render the water impassable or unsafe: at other times this bridge is only used for horse and foot passengers.

Market Harborough is situated 88 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 843 houses, and 1704 inhabitants. The principal trade here arises from the making of tammies, shalloons, and plain and figured lastings, &c. which employs a great number of poor families in the town and neighbourhood, and in some years it has been computed 30,000*l.* has been returned in tammies only.

Harborough appears to have been the head quarters of the king's army, previous to the memorable battle of *Naseby*, in Northamptonshire, which proved so fatal to the royal cause in June 1645. The king was at Lubbenham, and hearing that the parliament's army was beating up the rear of the royal camp, hastened to Harborough and called a council of war. It was then agreed to hazard an engagement next morning; and the royal army formed, it is supposed, upon the hill south of the town between Oxendon and Farndon. From this advantageous position they were drawn by the rashness of Prince Rupert and hurried on to battle, in which, in a few hours, the king's party was completely routed, having after a quick march of four miles attacked the enemy in a lofty position, before their own cannon arrived. The consequence was, that this infatuated and ill-conducted army were nearly all slain and taken prisoners. Many of them were conveyed back to Harborough and confined all night in the chapel. The following fanatical letter from

Oliver Cromwell to the Speaker, dated from this town, details some events of this memorable engagement.

For the Hon. William Lenthall, Speaker of the Commons House of Parliament.

“ Sir,

“ Being commanded by you to this service, I think myself bound to acquaint you with the good hand of God towards you and us. We marched yesterday after the king (who went before us from Daventry to Haverbrowe) and quartered about six miles from him. We after three hours fight, very doubtful, at last routed his army : killed and took about 5000 ; very many officers, but of what quality we yet know not. We took also about 200 carriages, all he had, and all his guns ; whereof two were demi calverins, and (I think) the rest Sakers. We pursued the enemy from three miles short of Haverbrowe, to nine beyond, even to the sight of Leicester, whither the king fled. Sir, this is none other but the hand of God ; and to him alone belongs the glory, wherein none are to share with him. The General served you with all faithfulness and honour ; and the best commendation I can give of him is, that I dare say he attributes all to God, and would rather perish than assume to himself, which is an honest and a thriving way : yet as much for bravery must be given him in this action as to a man. Honest men served you faithfully in this action. Sir, they are trusty. I beseech you in the name of God not to discourage them. I wish this action may beget thankfulness and humility in all concerned in it. He that ventures his life for the liberty of his country, I wish he trust God for the liberty of his conscience, and you for the liberty he fights for. In this he rests who is your humble servant,

O. CROMWELL.”

The movements of the king immediately before this battle are thus recorded by an attendant.

“ June 4, 1645, the king from Leicester lay at Wis-tow, one night at Sir Richard Halford's. 5th, Remov-

ed to Lubbenham near Harborough and staid two nights at Mr. Collins's. 7th, Went to Daventree and staid six nights at the Wheat Sheaf; whence Oxford was relieved from the siege and victualled. 13th, Re-marched to Lubbenham, to Mr. Collins. 14th, An alarm affrighted the king and the army at two in the morning to Harborough, the general's quarters; thence about seven marched towards Naseby, where the parliament's army quartered; rashly fought with them; were utterly defeated through the cowardice of the horse, who fled to the walls of Leicester, sixteen miles, and never faced nor rallied till there."

This defeat was attended with two peculiarly distressing circumstances. The king's cabinet of letters, among which were the private ones that passed between him and his queen, were basely published by the insulting foe. And the conquerors fiercely pursuing the routed royal army, overturned them in their hasty flight, particularly in the south part of Farn-don field, within the gate-place in the road between Naseby and Farndon. The parliament horse galloping along, as Mr. Morton was informed by an eye witness, cut and slashed the women with this sarcasm at every stroke, "*Remember Cornwall you whores.*" Sir Ralph Hopton, as they said, having used their women in Cornwall in the like manner. In this pursuit the enemy killed above one hundred women, whereof some were the wives of officers of quality.

About one mile and a half to the west of Market Harborough, is the village of LUBBENHAM, near which, on the banks of the Welland, are the trenches of an encampment, which Mr. Reynolds pronounces to be evidently Roman. "The hills which command it on the north and north-east (says this gentleman), made me suppose, that such expert soldiers would have chosen a situation not so exposed. But these hills, probably at that time covered with woods, formed a very necessary barrier against the east and north winds, an advantage not to be neglected in their winter habitations. The small river Welland

lies at some little distance, and it is probable was originally turned through the south ditch of their camp, but, in the highest flood, it never interferes with the area of the camp. The lines of the ramparts are visible on all sides, but the ditches are nearly obliterated, except to the south. The area of the camp contains about eight acres."

At the distance of about one mile to the west of Lubbenham, is an old house called Papillon Hall, from the name of the person who built it. It was originally surrounded with a moat; the shape of this building is octangular, and it had formerly but one entrance, the rooms being so disposed that each communicated with the next, and thus every apartment formed a sort of passage room to the others.

David Papillon, who occupied Papillon Hall. in 1628, obtained a license from Archbishop Abbot, for himself and family to frequent the Church of Marston, in the county of Northampton, as being nearer and more convenient for them than the parish church of Lubbenham, which was above a mile from his house. In this license is a proviso, that he and his family should at least, once a year (at Easter), go to the Church of Lubbenham to hear prayers and preaching, and receive the sacrament. Thus it appears that a person, even after the Reformation, had not the free choice of attending any other church than that of his own parish.

*Journey from East Norton to Ashby-de-la-Zouch;
through Leicester.*

EAST NORTON is a small village, situated on the eastern side of the county, near the river Eye; about two miles to the south of which is HALLATON, a small market town, situated in a valley, 91 miles from London, and containing 149 houses and 598 inhabitants.

The church is a large handsome structure, and consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, and tower, with a

spire, the former of which has large windows, with mullions and tracery; at the north-east angle is a sort of tower buttress, ornamented with niches, canopies, and pinnacles, over which are the arms of Bardolph and Eugaine, cut on stone shields, and the whole surmounted on a handsome crocket pinnacle: in the north porch is an ancient piece of sculpture, representing the patron St. Michael slaying a dragon; this piece of sculpture originally formed the impost of a doorway. In the church is also an ancient font of a square form, with columns at the angles, and having grotesque heads in the place of capitals.

A charity school was established here in the year 1707, by the benefaction of a lady. The market, which had been long discontinued, was revived in the year 1767, and is held here on Thursdays.

About one mile west of the town is an encampment, called Hallaton Castle Hill, consisting of a circular entrenchment, with a lofty conical keep, branching out from which, towards the west, is a square spot of ground, encompassed with banks and ditches, and to the north-east is a small square entrenchment connected with the outer foss.

The keep is about 40 yards in height, and 210 in circumference, the whole occupying about two acres of land.

About a quarter of a mile south-west of this, is the appearance of the remains of another encampment, of a squarish shape, which includes one acre and three roods of ground.

At the western bank of a large and lofty hill, about two miles to the south of Hallaton, is the pleasant village of MEDBOURN. This village, Mr. Burton says, "has doubtless been a Roman station, as a great number of coins and medals have been found here." And in the year 1721, a tessellated pavement was discovered at this place; which, upon being again opened in 1793, was found to consist of small square-stones of about three quarters of an inch over, most

of them coloured red, black, &c. but it does not appear to have been ornamented with any figures. It was discovered at the depth of about three feet and a half beneath the surface of the ground. In a field a little north-west of the village, are the remains of entrenchments with foundations, &c. which cover a plot of ground of about half a mile square. Here, according to tradition, once stood a city, called Midenborough, or Medenborough, "which (says Mr. Nichols) was destroyed by fire," and there appears some degree of probability in the name, from the situation, and the present town now retaining the former part of the traditional name. The undisturbed part of the Roman road is lofty and visible for 4 or 500 yards; and when it joins Slauston lordship, it is called Port-Hill, a very strong evidence in favour of a station and Roman road being here. In this field were three barrows or tumuli, but none of these were perfect; numerous coins, pieces of pottery, bones, &c. and a small mill-stone, have been discovered at this place.

At Holt, a hamlet attached to Medburn, and situate about one mile to the east, is the only water truly aluminous that Dr. Short could find in all his searches into the mineral waters of England. It was discovered in the year 1728, and is impregnated with a large proportion of calcareous nitre, a smaller of an acid austere salt resembling alum, with a fat clay or bole, a latent sulphur, and sometimes a little ochre. It has this peculiar excellency, that whilst it is a strong astringent, it is at the same time an evacuant and deobstruent, and not possessed of the evacuating qualities of alum, or of the sharper vitriols. Dr. Short affirms, that it has no parallel among our medicinal waters in hæmorrhages of every kind. It prevails in relaxations in general, and is very useful in scrofulous cases. In digging up the hill in quest of the spring, in the clay through which the water is strained, great quantities of talc have been found which being powdered and given in

warm ale, have proved a sovereign remedy in obstinate fluxes. The earth about it abounds with nitre, and the greatest part of the hill, at or near the spring, is limestone or gritstone, besides a good deal of ironstone.

At **BRADLEY**, a small hamlet, situated about two miles to the east of Holt, a small priory of the order of St. Austin, was founded by Robert Bundy, or Burneby, in the time of King John. It had but two canons at the time of the Suppression, whose lands were rated at 20l. 15s. 7d. per annum.

One mile to the north of Bradley, is **STOCKERSTON**, a small village, where John de Boyville, in the year 1466, founded an hospital, for a chaplain and three poor people, by license from King Edward IV. and obtained permission to settle lands upon them in mortmain, to the value of 10l. a year.

This John de Boyville died in 1467 and obtained possession of the lordships of Stokerstone and Cranhoe and other considerable property which devolved to his three daughters and coheirs, who made partition of their father's lands by deed, dated May 7th, 8th Edward IV. Some of the windows in Stokerstone Church are ornamented with painted glass, among which are figures of Saints and other scriptural illustrations.

About two miles to the north of Norton, at the small village of Lodington, is Lodington Hall, the seat of Campbell Morris, Esq. The house is modern, and is situated in a pleasant part of the county. Lodington is described by Mr. Nichols as "one of the finest lordships of old inclosure in Leicestershire, and contains about 2000 acres, and a famous wood, called Reddish Wood. In the north-east corner of the lordship in a field, about a mile from the mansion-house (called the Conduit Close), is a remarkable building, consisting of a stone roof, which covers two wells, one square, and the other round; the water stands about two feet deep in each, and is remarkably clear and pure. Hence the water was

conveyed to the priory at Laund by leaden pipes, at the distance of a mile, through woodlands. It is situated about two miles from Houback, or Houback Hill, in Tilton lordship, a place where there is supposed to have been a Roman station, several entrenchments being perfectly visible to the south." Part of the conduit has been removed.

At the distance of about a mile to the north-east of Lodington, at Laund, a sequestered spot on the borders of Rutlandshire, Richard Basset and Maude Ridel, his wife, in the latter part of the reign of Henry I. founded a priory of canons of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. At the suppression its yearly revenues were valued at 399l. 3s. 3d. The site of the priory, with the manor buildings thereto belonging, were granted after the dissolution to Thomas Cromwell, whom Fuller quaintly calls "the scoutmaster-general" in the art of dissolving the monasteries. The house and estate at present belong to John Finch Simpson, Esq. who has made considerable alterations in the former and the adjoining plantations. The house, which is called Laund Abbey, has gables, with large bow-windows: and attached to it is a small chapel, having two distinct vaults; in one of which are deposited the remains of Gregory Lord Cromwell, to whose memory there is a mural monument, stating, that he died on the 4th of July, in the year 1551. The original burial ground is still preserved, planted with trees, as an ornamental shrubbery, and is occasionally used for interment.

Though Cromwell and his commissioners were very strict in securing the property and effects of the monasteries, yet they were often cheated by the superior cunning and contrivances of the monks. This is particularly exemplified in the case of Laund Priory, as appears from the following letter, addressed by Mr. Smyth, owner of a neighbouring lordship, to his friend Francis Cave, dated Dec. 22, 1538.

" My heartie commendations to you premysed, this is to advertise you, that upon Wenyday last I receyvd your letter ; and syns the recypt thereof I have indeavored myself to the best of my power according to theffecte therof. And as concerning the priory of Lawnd, I have caused too honest persons to viewe the demeynes of the same. And wheras the said demeynes, with Whatboro felde, were wont and accustomed to kepe this tyme of the yere too thousand sheepe, or very nere, ther be at this daye scant fyve hundrede sheepe ; of the wyche I suppose the one half of them be not the prior's. And wheras the said prior was accustomed to keppe upon his comynes in Loddyngton feld fyve hundred sheepe, there is at this daye not one sheepe. And wheras the said prior was accustomed to have upon his comyns in Frysby feld a flocke of sheepe, there is at this day none. And as concerning beyves, all fate beyves, except a very fewe for the house, be sold; and much of the stuf of household is conveyed away (wiche sheepe, beyves, and howshold stuf, was sold and conveyed before the last going of the prior to London, and in the tyme of his beyng ther): but syns hys comyng home I cannot lerne that he hath made aweye any catall, except certayn of the best milche kye he hade, and one bull, wiche I am informyd he cawsed to be conveyed, the first nyght that he came from London, to Loddington. And as concerning the plate, the prior told me that he hade made hit away a good whyll agoo, to the intent to have redemyd his howse if it wold have been, except the juells, and plate of chirche, wiche I am informyd remayns styll. And as for his horses, he told me that he had gyven to dyvers of his servaunts every of them a geldyng, so that I thinke there remayne but a fewe good. And as concerning lecis, I thyncke there be none letten out of the demeynes, except hit be tythes, wich I thyncke were grauntyd but upon condicons ; as I suppose the partyes, if they be well examyned, will confesse. And as concerning Lod-

dington, I understand there be dyvers lecis granted of certain clouses and of the mylls ther, wiche I thinck were lykewyse letten but upon condicions, wiche leases were grauntyd before the prior's going to London; but, as I am informyd, thei were not all delyvered tyll the prior's comyng whom agayne. Syns the prior's return from London, I thyncke, ther were no leycis sealed. Notwithstanding I have perfect knowledge that the prior hathe bene sore in hand with his brether, syns his comyng whom, to have a leace sealyd of all his purchased land in Alstyng and other townes adjoining for on of his kynnesmen; wherunto his brether wyll not agree as yet, because hit is unresonable as his brether report. This is all that I can seye at this tyme; but as I here, so shall I certyfy you. I trust I shall learn more agaynst the kyng's commysioners comyng. As knowe the Lorde, who kepe you. From Withcokke, the xxii day of December, by your loving brother, JOHN SMYTHE."

At the village of Owston, about two miles to the north-west of the last-mentioned place, Sir Robert Grimbold, in the time of Henry II. built and endowed a small abbey for canons regular of the order of St. Austin, which he dedicated to St. Andrew, and in which, about the time of the Dissolution, there were twelve canons, whose yearly revenues amounted to 161*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*

Two miles to the north of Owston is the village of Burrow, situated on an eminence near the verge of the county, where it joins Huntingdonshire. It is in some old writings called *Burg*, *Erdeburg*, *Erdburrow*, &c. This place is noted by some antiquaries for its *castremetations*, on which both Leland and Stukely have descanted. The former says, "the place that is now cawllid Borow-hilles is duple ditched, and conteinith within the dicke to my estimation a iiii score acres. The soile of it bearith very good corne. First I tooke hit for a campe of menne of warre; but after I plaine perceived that hit had beene waullid about with stone, and to be sure, pullid out some stones at

the entering of hit, where hath bene a great gate, and ther found lyme betwixt the stones. But whither ther hath been any mo gates there than one, I am not sure, but I conject ye. Very often hath be founde ther *Numisma Romana* of gold, sylver, and brasse, and fragmentes of al foundations in plowing. This stondith in the very hy way betwixt Melton and London. To the Borow-hilles every yere on Monday after White-Sonday, cum people of the contery ther about, and shote, ronne, wrastel, dawnce, and use like other feates of exercyse." (These rural feats continued in vogue till within a few years.) "Borrow village is within lesse than half a mile of hit; and there dwellith one Mr. Borow, the greatest owner there.

"Borrow-hilles be about a vii miles from Leyrecestre. From Borrow-hilles to launde a v mile. The soile *directo itinere*, betwixt Southripe and laund, is barren of wood, but plentiful of corne and pasture, especially abowt launde quarters. But the soile abowte launde is wooddy; and the forest of Ly, of some caullid Lyfeld, joyntbe to launde by Este. And the soile of Oswen Abbey is also very wooddy."

These notices of our old tourist are curious and interesting; as displaying the state of the place when he visited it, and also as serving to characterize the customs of the people, and natural features of the county, almost three hundred years ago. Camden conjectures that the Roman station, called by Antoninus, *Vernometum*, was at Burrow: but, by the authority of later antiquaries, and particularly on the judgment of the Rev. T. Lemon, I have been induced to fix this station on the *northern* border of the county near Willoughby. Dr. Stukely describes the hill at Burrow "as a great Roman camp, on the north west tip of a ridge of hills, and higher than any other part of it, of a most delightful and extensive prospect, reaching as far as Lincoln one way. The fortification takes in the whole summit of the hill; the high rampart is partly composed of vast loose stones, piled up and covered with turf. It is of an

irregular figure, humouring the form of the ground nearly a square, and conformed to the quarters of the heavens, its length lies east and west; the narrowest end eastward. It is about 800 feet long; and for the most part there is a ditch besides the rampire. To render the ascent still more difficult to assailants, the entrance is south-west at a corner from a narrow ridge. Here two rampires advance inwards, like the sides of a gate for greater strength. Within is a rising hill about the middle; and they say that vaults have been found thereabouts. Antiquaries talk of a temple, which may have been there, and in the time of the Britons. Several springs rise from under the hill on all sides; and I observed the rock thereof is composed of sea-shells. They frequently carry away the stones that form the rampires, to mend the roads with. There is another Roman castle, southward, near Tilton, but not so big as Borough-hill."

The castle or encampment here referred to is probably that of *Sauvey*, in the lordship of Withcote, about four miles S. S. E. of Burrow hill, where the embankment is single, composed chiefly of a rock of the same nature as Burrow hill, and interspersed with fossils of the same kind.

Though Leland and Dr. Stukely speak so decisively of walls here, the Rev. George Ashby doubts the existence of any masonry having been ever used in this fortification; and Mr. John Tailby, in a letter to Mr. Nichols, positively contradicts it by observing that "Burrow hill is an encampment, in a great measure formed by *nature*, and shaped by art and labour. The hill consists of a loose open-jointed rock of soft reddish stone, covered with a shallow soil. In this rock some fossil shells appear, some indented some plain, but most of the cockle kind: one I found, when broken, shewed the ligaments, or membranes, which join the fish to the shell; this was a small plain one. The joints of the rock, at first sight, appear as if formed by art as a wall is, for

between the joints is a white substance, which adheres to the stone, and much resembles lime, or lime-mortar; but is in reality *no such thing*. In some places the joints are so open, that the earth, which is not more than six or eight inches deep above the rock, (in some places the stone appears above the soil) is worked into the chinks, so as to appear as a cement of dirt-mortar."

In the church at Burrow is a small piscina, and a curious circular *font*, ornamented with various tracery, &c. Here is an old monument to a knight of the family of Stockden, with his effigy in armour.

Returning again to our road, at the distance of three miles from East Norton, after passing through the village of Tugby, we arrive at Skeffington, a small village, situated on an eminence. The church, which is dedicated to St. Thomas-a-Becket, is built of stone, and consists of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel. At the end of the north aisle is a private chapel for the Skeffington family, in which are several inscriptions and handsome monuments to the memories of different branches of that noble family. In the south wall of the chancel is a curious piscina, and in the same place also remains the rood-loft, nearly in a perfect state. In the eastern window is some painted glass, in which are several figures and mutilated inscriptions.

At a short distance to the south of this village is Skeffington Hall, the seat of Sir William Charles F. Skeffington, Bart. The house, which is large, assumes, on the south side, a castellated appearance. The rooms are numerous, spacious, and convenient, and many of them decorated with pictures by the first masters, Sir W. Skeffington having always been attached to the fine arts. The floor, as well as the wainscoting, of the drawing-room, which measures 32 feet in length, and 23 in breadth, was, according to a record in the family, obtained from one oak-tree, which grew in the neighbouring woods.

Among the paintings are the following: Moses trampling on the Crown of Pharaoh, by Rembrandt.

—Our Saviour blessing the Children, by Le Scur.
 —Two Landscapes, on copper, by Breughel.—David with Goliath's head, by Ciro Ferri.—A Magdalen, size of life, by Parmegiano.—A Landscape, with geese, ducks, a spaniel, &c. by Weenix.—A large picture, representing the Four Elements, by Jordaens.—Venus returning from Hunting, by Luca Giordano.—A Landscape, by Vander Uden, and the figures by Teniers.—The Adoration of the Shepherds, by L. Giordano.—A Landscape by Lambert, —A hare sitting, by Denner,—**PORTRAITS.** The Earl of Holland, by Dobson.—Pope Paul the Third, by Titian.—Charles the Second, and General Monck, both by Sir Godfrey Kneller.—Head of an Old Man, by Vandyck.—Head of Henry the Eighth, by H. Holbein.—A whole length of King Charles the First, by old Stone.—A whole length of James the First, and his Queen, by Vansomer.—King William the Third, by Sir G. Kneller.—Queen Anne, by Vandyck.—A large picture of King Charles the First, his Queen, the Prince of Wales, and James Duke of York, by old Stone, after Vandyck.

At this place was born Thomas Skeffington, who was consecrated Bishop of Bangor in June, 1509. He caused a window to be made in this church, in which, says Burton, was "his picture, arms, and a subscription." He also made another window in Merevale church, in Warwickshire, wherein was the following inscription in old letters, "Orate pro anima Thome Skeffington, episcopi Bangor;" with his arms impaling those of the See of Bangor. Burton further states, that this Bishop "built all the cathedral church at Bangor, from the quire downwards, to the west end, and the fine tower steeple, which was not fully perfected when he died, but after finished by his executors, though not to that height he had intended." Wood relates, that Bishop Skeffington became, when young, professed in the monastery of Cisterians at Merevale; instructed in theological and other learning

in St. Bernard's college, originally built for Cister-tians in the north suburb of Oxford (being now St. John's college), to which place he bequeathed 20l. towards its reparation. He was afterwards made abbot of Waverly, a house of that order in Surrey. He died in 1533, and his heart was interred in the cathedral at Bangor, but his body was conveyed to, and buried in, the monastery of Beaulieu, in Hampshire.

One mile and a half from the last-mentioned place, is Billesdon, a small market-town, consisting of 120 houses, and 534 inhabitants; it is situated 98 miles from London, and has a market on Friday.

About two miles to the north-west of Billesdon is Quenby hall, a substantial, large, commodious, and venerable building, consisting of a centre, with a large lofty hall, and two side wings projecting from each front. This house is now the residence of Mr. Shuckburgh Ashby. Of this place Mr. Arthur Young gives the following account in his *Eastern Tour*. "Quenby hall is an old house, but what is very extraordinary, is an admirable structure, being on a very high eminence, finely wooded, that commands all the country; it was, formerly, their taste to place their seats in the lowest and most unpleasant situations of a whole estate. Mr. Shuckburgh Ashby, when he came to the estate, found the house a mere shell, much out of repair, and the offices in ruin. He has in a few years brought the whole into complete order, fitted up all the rooms in a style of great propriety; his furniture is rich, and some of it magnificent; and his collection of prints an excellent one. His library is filled with the best and most expensive books in several languages. Around the house is a new terrace, which commands a great variety of prospect, on one side very extensive, over a distant hilly country, and even to the mountains of the Peak; on the other side a beautiful landscape of hanging hills, with scattered woods shelving in a winding valley, so low that you look down upon it

in a very picturesque manner, the sides of the hills all cut into rich enclosures."

At the distance of about eight miles beyond Billesdon, after passing through the villages of Houghton and Thurnby, we arrive at Leicester; four miles beyond which is the village of GROOBY, formerly a market-town, and giving title to the Greys, which was forfeited by the attainder of Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset, in the reign of Richard the Third; the title of Baron Grey of Grooby was, however, restored to one of the family by James the First.

One mile to the south-west of the last-mentioned place is the village of RATBY. In this parish is a large entrenchment, formed in the shape of a parallelogram; the embankment of which, Throsby says, includes an area of nine acres and thirty-one poles, the slope being thirty-nine feet and a half. From its lofty apex there is an extensive view of the circumjacent country, and near it is a spring called Holywell, from which the place is usually denominated the Springs. Contiguous is an estate called Steward's Hay, formerly belonging to the Sacheverell family, but now the hunting-seat of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

About one mile to the north of Grooby is Broadgate Park, in which are the ruins of a once magnificent and spacious mansion, which was destroyed by fire some years since. This place at an early period belonged to Hugh Grentemaisnell, from whom it passed, by marriage, to Robert Blanchmains, Earl of Leicester, and afterwards, by marriage, again to Saher de Quency, Earl of Winton. There was a park here as early as the year 1247, when Roger de Quency, Earl of Winton, granted permission to Roger de Somery, by written agreement, to "enter at any hour on the forest of him the Earl, to chace in it (*ad versandum*) with nine bows and six hounds, according to the form of a written agreement before made, between the aforesaid Roger, Earl of Winton, and Hugh de Albaniaco, Earl of Arundel, in the

court of the Lord the King at Leicester. And if any wild beast wounded by any of the aforesaid bows, shall enter the aforesaid park by any deer leap, or otherwise, it shall be lawful for the aforesaid Roger de Somery, and his heirs, to send one man or two of his, who shall follow the aforesaid wild beast, with the dogs pursuing that wild beast, within the aforesaid park, without bow and arrows, and may take it on that day wherein it was wounded, without hurt of other wild beasts in the aforesaid park abiding; so that if they be footmen they shall enter by some deer-leap, or hedge, and if they be horsemen, they shall enter by the gate, if it shall be open; and otherwise shall not enter before they wind their horn for the keeper, if he will come.

The park in Leland's time was "*vi miles in cum-puss*," and at the time of this tourist's visit, the "foundation and walls of a greate gate-house of brike" were left unfinished. He also states that Thomas, the first Earl of Dorset, erected, and "almost finished, ii touers of brike in the fronte of the house as respondent on eche side to the gate-house."—The venerable ruins of this once splendid mansion, with the forest scenery around, form a view highly picturesque. A correspondent to Mr. Nichols says, "that the traces of the tilt-yard are still visible, and the courts are now occupied by rabbits, and shaded with chesnut trees and mulberries."

Near this mansion is a chapel, in which is a handsome monument to Henry Lord Grey, of Grooby, and his lady, the front and summit of which are decorated with the armorial bearings and quarterings of the families of Greys, Hastings, Valence, Ferrers, of Grooby, Astley, Widvill, Bouille, and Harrington. Lady Jane Dudley, commonly called Lady Jane Grey, was born at this place in the year 1577; she was the eldest daughter of Henry Grey, Marquis of Dorset, and of the Lady Frances Brandon, eldest daughter of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, by Mary, Queen Dowager of France,

youngest daughter of Henry VII. and sister to Henry VIII. Being a young lady of promising genius, great pains were taken to give her a good education, and whilst very young she acquired the knowledge both of the learned and modern languages; to all which she joined an unaffected piety, and the greatest sweetness of temper. Her near alliance with the blood royal inspired Dudley, Duke of Northumberland (to whose fourth son, the Lord Guildford Dudley, she was married) with the ambitious thoughts of raising her to the throne; a scheme which proved the ruin of her and all that were concerned in it. The Duke, in order to accomplish this project, prevailed on King Edward VI. whose health was in a very declining state, to appoint the Lady Jane his heiress and successor; and accordingly, on the death of that prince, which happened on the 6th of July, 1553, the Lady Jane, though much against her own inclination, was proclaimed Queen of England with the usual solemnity. Her reign, however, was of short continuance; for the princess Mary, eldest daughter to Henry VIII. having raised an army in support of her own title, and that of her sister Elizabeth, obtained the crown: on which Northumberland was seized, and sent to the tower; and was soon after tried, condemned, and executed. Sentence of death was at the same time passed on Queen Jane, as also upon her husband and father, the latter of whom had been created Duke of Suffolk. The Duke, however, was pardoned and set at liberty; and the execution of the sentence against Lady Jane and her husband was for the present suspended; and might, perhaps, at last have been entirely remitted, had it not been for the imprudence of her father, who unwarily engaged in Wyatt's rebellion. For this fresh crime he was again seized and tried, and being found guilty, was immediately beheaded; and it was also resolved that Lady Jane and her husband should both die.

February the 12th, 1554, the day appointed for their execution, the Lord Guildford, her husband, requested that she would admit him to see her; but she refused to comply with his request, and sent him word, that the tenderness of a parting interview would, she feared, too much affect their spirits, and render them unable to meet their approaching fate with that magnanimity which befitted their condition. The wretched husband acquiesced, and from the window of her prison she beheld him carried to execution, and from the same window she saw his head and body brought back in a cart. It had been proposed to execute them both together; but the council fearing that the compassion of the people for their youth, beauty, innocence, and noble birth, might excite some dangerous commotion, thought proper to alter their resolution, and gave orders that she should suffer on a scaffold within the Tower. She was accordingly led forth from her apartment to the block, where she addressed the spectators in words to the following effect: "That she came thither for an example to posterity, that innocence cannot be any protection against greatness, and that she was to die, not for aspiring to a crown, but for refusing one when it was offered her." She shewed great constancy and piety to the last moment, and testified an immovable adherence to the Protestant faith; after which, submitting her neck to the stroke of the executioner, her head was severed from her body. Thus fell this amiable but unfortunate lady, before she had attained the 17th year of her age.

Upon this celebrated lady's character, Mr. Britton has judiciously observed Lady Jane Grey, afterwards Dudley, according to her own statement, was treated with great rigour by her parents, who employed Roger Ascham, and Dr. Aylmer, to instruct her in the usual education of the times; and, in the routine of instruction, the Protestant religion constituted an essential part. Indeed, if we estimate her character

by her own writings, we shall infer, that the scriptures, and religious books, were the chief subjects of her study and solicitude. Her tutors, however, panegyrised her learning, and the Martyrologists and Protestant advocates, (for religion then engrossed the minds of men,) descanted on her virtues, meekness, humility, and "godliness." Subsequent writers have admitted, and repeated, nearly the whole of these encomiums. Bigots and enthusiasts never discriminate, and from such writers we are not very likely to obtain plain facts, and "unvarnished truth." If full credit be given to the statement of her tutors, Ascham and Aylmer, she was one of the most extraordinary females that ever lived in this, or any other country. They relate, that their pupil, at the age of sixteen, understood the Greek, Latin, French, and Italian languages, and was also acquainted with the Hebrew, Chaldee, and Arabic. It is further asserted, that she played on several musical instruments, and sometimes accompanied the tunes with her voice: and added to these accomplishments the advantage of writing a fine hand, and excelling in various kinds of needle-work. Such transcendant attainments seem to exceed the bounds of credibility, and are nearly allied to those monkish romances of saints and martyrs, invented by craft, to impose on credulity. The historical interest attached to the memory of this lady, and the engaging accounts that have been given of her meekness, amiableness, and learning, combining with the afflicting and inhuman circumstance of her murder, all conspire to rouse our feelings, and excite our sympathies in her behalf: but we must not allow these emotions to impose on, and deceive our judgments, if we wish to ascertain and clearly comprehend the history of human actions, and of human powers. That nature occasionally produces phenomena, is evident; but the instances are very rare: it is more commonly the case, that craft, folly, or infatuated zeal, magnifies and exaggerates common effects into wonders. That Lady

Jane was very learned for her age, and the times in which she lived, that she was amiable in manners, and truly unfortunate, are all circumstances extremely probable and admissible ; but the indiscriminating and garrulous encomiums of Roger Ascham, her preceptor, and afterwards Queen Elizabeth's schoolmaster, do not command implicit credit, nor should we take such evidence alone for historical data.

Returning again to our road at the distance of three miles from Grooby is the village of Markfield ; between this and that of Huclescote is Bardon Hall, the seat of W. Hood, Esq. Passing Ravenstone we arrive at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, about six miles to the north of which, in a sequestered spot, is Langley Hall. The house, which stands in a low situation, consists of three sides of a quadrangle ; some parts of which appear to be remnants of a priory, which was founded here, for Benedictine nuns, at a very early period

*Journey from Burton Lazars to Nether Broughton ;
through Melton Mowbray.*

BURTON LAZARS is a hamlet to the parish of Melton Mowbray, from which it is situated about two miles south-east. The name of Burton Lazars is derived from an ancient hospital for lazars or lepers, so rich that all the inferior lazar-houses in England were in some degree subject to its master, as he himself was to the master of the lazars in Jerusalem. It is said to have been built in the time of the Normans, by a general collection throughout England, but chiefly by the assistance of Roger de Mowbray, who in the time of King Stephen gave two carucates of land, an house, and a mill.

Leland says, it was founded by Lord Mowbray, for a master and eight brethren of the Augustine order, in the reign of Henry I. at which time, says Camden, the leprosy, by some called Elephantiasis, ran by infection all over England, and was believed to have come originally from Egypt. This hospital

was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Lazarus ; and its possessions, upon the Dissolution, were valued at 265*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* per annum. It was situated on a hill near a bath or spring, the waters of which were formerly in high reputation for the disorder called leprosy. In the year 1760 a bathing-room and drinking-room were built here, and the place frequented by many persons afflicted with scrofulous and scorbutic complaints ; some of whom are said to have derived very considerable benefit from the use of the waters, which are fœtid and saline without any mineral taste, but are esteemed pure in the highest degree, and create an appetite. They not only brace and invigorate weak constitutions, but also render the person who use them less liable to colds and the inclemencies of weather.

About three miles to the east of Burton Lazars, is the small village of Stapleford Hall, a seat of the Earl of Harborough. The house, which is situated on a rising ground, in an extensive park, consists of three distinct parts, erected at different periods. By a date on the eastern front, it appears that the most ancient part of this building was erected by Thomas Sherard, Esq. in the year 1500, and, according to another inscription, this edifice was repaired in the year 1631, by William Lord Sherard, Baron Letrym. This part of the house is ornamented with 15 statues in niches, which are intended to represent different persons, ancestors of the family. It has square-headed windows with mullions, and exhibits a curious specimen of the English domestic architectre of the age. Besides these statues are several coats of arms, and pieces of sculpture in basso relievo. The village church, which is situated near the mansion, is a modern building, being erected in the year 1788 ; and within it are some fine monuments of the different branches of the Harborough family ; among which is an elegant one by Rysbrac, to the memory of the first Earl of Harborough, who is represented in a Roman costume, with one arm reclining on a cushion, while the other is directed

towards the figure of his lady, who is displayed with a naked infant on her knee. Here is also an elegant large marble monument, raised to the memory of William Lord Sherard, whose statue in armour, with another of his lady, are laid on a table tomb beneath an arch, and on either side of the tomb are his three sons in armour, and a daughter, each of whom are kneeling on a cushion, and in the middle of the tomb is another son, likewise on a cushion. This nobleman died on the 1st of April, in the year 1640.

At the distance of about eight miles from Burton Lazars, after passing through Melton Mowbray, and the village of Kettleby, we arrive at NETHER BROUGHTON.

At DALBY, a village, situated about two miles to the west of Nether Broughton, was a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers, thought to have been founded by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester, in the former part of the reign of Henry II. and valued, upon the dissolution, at the yearly revenues of 91l. 2s. 8d.

In this village, which is also called Dalby-on-the-Would, to distinguish its situation on the high open grounds, is a considerable spring of chalybeate water, which it is said will rust through a bar of iron of an inch in diameter in the course of a year.

About six miles to the west of Dalby-on-the-Woulds, at the village of Prestwold, is Prestwold Hall, the seat of Charles James Packe, Esq. The house, which stands in a fine park, is a large modern mansion, and contains several good portraits by Vandyck, Sir P. Lely, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Dahl. Among these is a portrait of Jane Shore, a good picture, and believed to be an original.

The Right Hon Sir Christopher Packe, Lord Mayor of London, 1665, is represented in the scarlet gown, black hood, gold chain, &c. of an Alderman. Sir Gervase Clifton, Bart. he had seven wives,

and died in 1668. Sir James Hoblow, Knight, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. In the church of Prestwold is a monument of alabaster and touch, erected to the memory of Sir William Skapwith of Cotes, Knight, and Lady Jane, his second wife. He died in May, 1610. The above-named Sir Christopher Packe, and several others of the family, were interred here, and various monumental inscriptions perpetuate their ages, virtues, &c.

END OF TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION.

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TOPOGRAPHICAL
 AND
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION
 OF THE
COUNTY OF LINCOLN;

Containing an Account of its

Situation, Extent, Towns, Roads, Rivers,	Minerals, Fisheries, Manufactures, Commerce, Fairs,	Agriculture, Markets, Curiosities, Antiquities, Natural History,
------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, &c.

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A COPIOUS TRAVELLING GUIDE,

Exhibiting

The Direct and Principal Cross Roads,

Inns and Distances of Stages, and

Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats,

Which form a

COMPLETE COUNTY ITINERARY:

With

A LIST OF THE FAIRS,

And an Index Table,

Shewing, at One View, the Distances of all the Towns from
 London, and of Towns from each other.

BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

Illustrated with a
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SESSIONS.—And if any Court for the Recovery of small Debts?

FAIRS—MARKETS—HORSE-RACES, &c.?

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 BEST INNS?
 POST-OFFICE —Time of the Arrival and Departure of the Post? and if there be a PETTY POST?
 MANUFACTORIES?
 PUBLIC BUILDINGS—PRIVILEGES—TENURES?
 CHURCHES?
 CATHOLIC and other DISSENTING PLACES of WORSHIP.—What Denominations?
 BRIDGES—CANALS?
 BANKS.—Hours of Attendance, with the Names of the Houses they draw upon in London?
 HACKNEY COACHES — LOCAL PECULIARITIES or DIVERSIONS—CUSTOMS—MODE of CONVEYING the DEAD, &c.?
 SEALS of the COUNTY and TOWN?
 GENTLEMEN'S SEATS in the Environs of the Town, or any other Part of the County, with the RESIDENTS' NAMES?
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INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent</i>	<i>Contains</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament</i>	<i>Produce and Manufactures.</i>
<p>Yorkshire on the north.</p> <p>On the east by the German Sea.</p> <p>On the south by Cambridgeshire, and Northamptonshire.</p> <p>And on the west by Rutlandshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Yorkshire.</p>	<p>In length about 75 miles, from north to south.</p> <p>In breadth about 45 miles.</p> <p>In circumference about 160 miles.</p>	<p>3 Provinces.</p> <p>30 Hundreds.</p> <p>1 City.</p> <p>31 Market towns.</p> <p>630 Parishes.</p> <p>About 1,839,120 Acres.</p> <p>46,365 Houses.</p> <p>237,891 Inhabitants.</p>	<p>12 Members, <i>viz.</i></p> <p>2 for the county,</p> <p>2 for the city of Lincoln,</p> <p>2 for Boston,</p> <p>2 for Grantham,</p> <p>2 for Grimsby,</p> <p>2 for Stamford.</p>	<p>It is particularly distinguished as a grazing country, and is remarkable for rearing all kinds of animals to the greatest size and weight.</p> <p>It is only in a small degree a manufacturing county: the principal manufacture, however, is that of wool, which is the staple article of the county.</p>

Lincolnshire is situated in the Province of Canterbury, and Diocese of Lincoln.

AN ITINERARY

OF THE

DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS,

INCLUDING

THE STAGES, INNS, AND GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

N. B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through; the Figures that follow shew the Distances from Place to Place, Town to Town, and Stages; and in the last Column are the names of Gentlemen's Seats, and Inns. The right and left on the Roads are distinguished by the letters R. and L.

JOURNEY FROM BARTON TO MARKET-DEEPING,

THROUGH LINCOLN.

Barton to Glandford Bridge	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	At Elsham, — Corbet, esq. L.
<i>Cross the Ancholme River, or New Navigation to</i>			At Scauby, Sir Henry Nel- thorpe, bart. R.
Hibalstow	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Redbourn	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	16	Redbourn Hall, Duke of St. Alban's, L.
Spittal Inn	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	Norton Place, Sir Montague Chomely, Cainby Hall, Charles Tennison, Esq.
<i>At Spittal Inn, on R. a T. R. to Gainsborough, on L. to Market Rasen.</i>			
.....			Summer Castle, Lady Wray, R.
Midge Inn	6	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	At Hackthorn, — Cra- croft, esq. L.
.....			At Burton, Lord Monson, R. Riseholme, Rev. C. Chaplin.
LINCOLN	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	34	Inns—Rein Deer, Saracen's

<i>At Lincoln, on</i>			<i>Head, White Hart.</i>
<i>R. a T. R. to</i>			<i>At Canwick, Col. Sibthorpe,</i>
<i>Gainsborough on</i>			<i>L.</i>
<i>L. to Wragby.</i>			
<i>Beyond Lincoln,</i>			
<i>on R. a T. R. to</i>			
<i>Newark.</i>			
Dunstan Pillar	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	40 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>At Norton, Hon. J. F. Ro-</i>
			<i>bertson, L. Harmstone,</i>
			<i>S. Thorold, esq. R.</i>
Green Man Inn	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	42	<i>At Coleby, Lady Kaye, and</i>
			<i>Col. Bromhead, R.</i>
.....			<i>At Blankney, C. Chaplin,</i>
			<i>esq. L. At Wellingore,</i>
			<i>Col. Neville, R. At Ash-</i>
			<i>by, Mrs. Gardiner, L.</i>
			<i>Bloxholme Hall, General</i>
			<i>Robert Manners, L.</i>
Leasingham....	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Mrs. Gordon, L. J. Steel, R.</i>
Holdingham	$\frac{3}{4}$	50 $\frac{1}{4}$	
SLEAFORD	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	51 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Inns—Angel, George.</i>
<i>Beyond Slea-</i>			
<i>ford on L. a T.</i>			
<i>R. to Boston.</i>			
Silk Willoughby	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	54	<i>At Culverthorpe, M. New-</i>
			<i>ton, esq. R.</i>
Ashwarby.....	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	56 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>Sir T. Whichcote, bart. L.</i>
Osbornby	$\frac{1}{4}$	58	
FOLKINGHAM ...	3	61	<i>Inn—Greyhound.</i>
Aslackby	2	63	
<i>About three</i>			
<i>miles beyond As-</i>			
<i>lackby, on L. a</i>			
<i>T. R. to Don-</i>			
<i>nington.</i>			
Morton	4	67	<i>At Hanthorpe, Col. Pack,</i>
			<i>R.</i>
BOURN	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	69 $\frac{3}{4}$	<i>At Bourn, J. Hogard, esq.</i>
<i>At the entrance</i>			<i>Mrs. Pochin, and James</i>

of Bourn on R.
a T. R. to Corby.

Digby, esq. About four
miles on R. Grimsthorp
Castle, Lord Gwyder.

Thurlby 2 71 $\frac{3}{4}$

At Thurlby, J. Barnes, esq.

Cross the river 2 73 $\frac{3}{4}$

Glen.

Caswick, Sir John Trollop,
bart. R.

Baston

Langtoft $\frac{1}{4}$ 75

At Getford, two miles on R.
Dr. Willis.

MARKET-DEEP-

ING..... 2 77

At Market-
Deeping on R. a
T. R. to Stam-
ford, on L. to
Spalding.

Cross the Wel-
land River, and
enter Northamp-
tonshire.

LINCOLN TO GRIMSBY,

THROUGH MARKET RASEN AND CAISTOR.

Lincoln to
Langworth
Bridge 6 6

Near Doddington, Lord De-
laval.

Cross Barling's
river. On R. a
T. R. to Wragby.

Stainton 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 7 $\frac{1}{4}$

Snelland 2

Revesby

Wickenby.....

Lessington

Linwood

MARKET-RASEN. 5 15 $\frac{1}{4}$

Inn—White Hart.

Theroadthrough
Buslingthorpe is

At North Willingham, As-
cough Boucheret, esq. R.

not passable part
of the year: but
this is the regu-
lar and only good
road.

CAISTOR..... $7\frac{1}{2}$ $22\frac{3}{4}$ Inn—*George.*

*At Caistor on
L. a T. R. to
Glandford
Bridge.*

Caborn 2 $24\frac{3}{4}$

Swallow 1 $25\frac{3}{4}$

Irby 3 $28\frac{3}{4}$

Laceby $2\frac{1}{2}$ $31\frac{1}{4}$

*Within a mile
of Grimsby on R.
a T. R. to Louth.*

GRIMSBY 3 $34\frac{3}{4}$

SALTFLEET TO SLEAFORD,

THROUGH HORNCastle.

SALTFLEET to

Saltfleetby $3\frac{1}{2}$ $3\frac{1}{2}$

Grimoldby 3 7

LOUTH 3 10

..... Inn—*King's Head.
Tathwell Hall, George Chap-
lin, esq. L.*

Cawkwell $7\frac{1}{2}$ $17\frac{1}{2}$

Scamelsby 4 21

West Ashby.... 4 $21\frac{1}{2}$

HORNCastle.... 2 $23\frac{1}{2}$

..... Inns—*Bull, George.*

*At Horncastle,
on R. a T. R. to
Wragby.*

Halham $4\frac{1}{2}$ 28 *Revesby Deer Park, and
Revesby Abbey, Sir Jo-
seph Banks, bart. L.*

Tumby	1½	29½	One mile and half on L. is Strivelsby Park, L. Dy-mocke, Esq.
TATTERSHALL .. Cross the Old Witham River.	4	32	Inn—Angel.
Billinghamy	4½	36½	
Anwich	3	39¾	Haverholm Priory, Sir J. W. Gordon, bart. L.
SLEAFORD	4¼	44½	Near Col. Manners. Inns—Angel, George.

LOUTH TO CROWLAND,

THROUGH SPALDING.

Louth to Burwell.....	5½	5½	Burwell Park, M. B. Lister, esq. L.
Calceby Beck .. One mile and a half beyond Calceby Beck, on L. a T. R. to Al- fred.	3	8½	Calceby Ruins R. and farther on at South Ormsby, C. B. Massingbred, esq. R. At Thorsby, W. Wood, esq. L.
Dalby.....	3½	12	Langton Hall, George Lang- ton, esq. R.
Partney.....	1	13	
SPILSBY	1½	14½	Inn—White Hart.
East Keal.....	1½	16	
Stickford	3	19	At Hagnaby, T. Coltman, esq. R.
.....			The East Fenn, L.
Stickney	2¼	21½	Revesby Deer Park, and Revesby Abbey, Sir Joseph Banks, bart. R.
Sibsey	5	26½	
Between Sib- sey and Boston on L. a T. R. to			

<i>Wainfleet.</i>			
BOSTON	5	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns— <i>Peacock, Red Lion, White Hart.</i>
<i>Cross the Old Witham river.</i>			<i>About two miles and a half to the L. John Linton, esq. and about five miles farther are Frieston Shore Bathing Houses, L.</i>
<i>At Boston on R. a T. R. to Sleaford.</i>			<i>At Frampton, J. Tunnard, esq. L.</i>
.....			
Kirton	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	35 $\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>At Kirton on L. a T. R. to Foss Dyke Wash.</i>			
Sotherton	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>At Sotherton, the Rev. Dr. Hutton.</i>
<i>Between Sotherton and Surfleet, on R. a T. R. to Donnington and Swineshead.</i>			<i>R. Colthorpe, esq.</i>
Surfleet	6	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>Cross the river Glenn.</i>			
Pinchbeck	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	45 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Rev. Dr. Wayett.</i>
SPALDING	2	47 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Inns—George, White Hart.</i>
<i>At Spalding on L. a T. R. to Holbeach, on R. to St. James's - Deeping.</i>			
Cowbit	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	50	
Crowland	5	55	<i>At Crowland, T. Orby Hunter, esq. and the ruins of the Abbey.</i>

COLTERSWORTH TO THE GREEN MAN
INN,

THROUGH ANCASTER.

Coltersworth to			<i>Easton, Sir M. Cholmeley,</i>
Woodnock.....	5	5	<i>bart.</i>
Cold Harbour ..	3	8	
London Thorpe .	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Belton, Earl Brownlow, L.</i>
			<i>and a little farther Syston</i>
			<i>Park, Sir John Thorold,</i>
			<i>bart. L.</i>
Ancaster.	4	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Baynard's Leap	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	16	
At Baynard's			
Leap on R. a T.			
R. to Sleaford ;			
on L. to Newark.			
A little before			
the Green Man			
Inn, you join the			
road to Lincoln,			
by Sleaford			
.....			<i>At Wellingore, Col. Neville,</i>
			<i>L.</i>
Green Man Inn	9	25	<i>At Coleby, Lady Kaye, and</i>
			<i>Col. B. Bromhead, L.</i>

COLTERSWORTH TO LONG BENNINGTON,

THROUGH GRANTHAM.

Coltersworth to			
Stoke Cottages .	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Easton, Sir M. Cholmeley,</i>
			<i>bart. R. and nearly oppo-</i>
			<i>site, Stoke Rocheford,</i>
			<i>Edmund Turner, esq. L.</i>
			<i>Buckminster Park, Sir W.</i>
			<i>Manners, bart. R.</i>

Great Ponton ..	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Three miles to the L. Hungerton Lodge, George de Ligne Gregory, esq. and two miles farther, Denton House, Sir William Earl Welby, bart.
At Great Ponton on R. a T. R. to Ancaster and Lincoln; on L. to Hungerton Lodge, Denton House, and Belvoir Castle.			
Spittlegate	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	Croxton Hall, Hon. Edward Percival, R. At little Paxton, William Pennyman, esq. L. at little Ponton.
GRANTHAM	1	8	Inns—Angel, George. Sir C. Kert, bart.
At Grantham on L. a T. R. to Sedgbrook.			
.....			Belton, Earl Brownlow, R. and a little farther, Syston Park, Sir John Thorold, bart.
Gunnerby	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	Lincoln Minster, L. Belvoir Castle, Duke of Rutland, L.
Marston, T. G. ...	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	12	
Foston	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Bennington	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	

LOUTH TO GLANDFORD BRIDGE,

THROUGH CAISTOR.

Louth to South Elkington	2	2	
Division of the Road	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Market - Rasen.			The road to Market Rasen is forward from the right of Ormsby Mill.
Ormsby Mill, the summit	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	.

*At the foot of
the hill, forward
to Great Grims-
by, on L. to*

Binbrook	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thorsway	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	14
Rothwell	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
CAISTOR	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	18

*At Caistor on
R. a T. R. to
Great Grimsby;
on L. to Market-
Rasen.*

Clixby	2	20
Grassby	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	21 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Broklesby Hall, and Park,
Lord Yarborough, R.*

Bigby	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	24
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*At Elsham, — Corbet,
esq. R.*

GLANDFORD

BRIDGE	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	24 $\frac{3}{4}$
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*Inns—Angel, White Lion.
At Scawby, Sir Henry
Nelthorpe, bart. L.*

LOUTH TO GAINSBOROUGH,

THROUGH MARKET-RASEN.

LOUTH to South Elkington	2	2
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Inn—King's Head.

Division of the Road	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
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*On R. a T. R.
to Caistor.*

Kelstorn	1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
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Calsthorp	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	6
-----------------	-----------------	---

Ludford	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
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*At Tcalby, seat of S. Ten-
nison, esq.*

N. Willingham.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	12
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*At North Willingham, late
Ascough Boucheret, esq.*

About three

<i>quarters of a mile farther on L. to Wragby.</i>			<i>No Turnpike.</i>
MARKET-RASEN.	4	16	Inn—White Hart.
<i>At Market Rasen on R. a T. R. to Caistor, on L. to Lincoln.</i>			
Middle Rasen ..	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$17\frac{1}{2}$	
West Rasen	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$19\frac{1}{4}$	
Glentham	5	$24\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Norton Place, Sir Montague Chomeley, late John Harrison, esq. R. Cainby Hall, Miss Otter.</i>
Spittal Inn	3	$27\frac{1}{4}$	
<i>At Spittal Inn on R. a T. R. to Glanford Bridge. on L. to Lincoln.</i>			
Harpwell	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$29\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Glentworth, Earl of Scarborough, L. and farther to the L. Summer Castle, Lady Wray.</i>
Lit. Corringham	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$33\frac{3}{4}$	
.....			<i>Pass through Somerby Park, the house on the L.</i>
GAINSBOROUGH.	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$37\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Inns — Blackmoor's Head, White Hart.</i>
<i>At Gainsborough on L. a T. R. to Lincoln.</i>			

CROWLE TO GREAT GRIMSBY,

THROUGH BURTON-UPON-STRATHER, AND BARTON.

Crowle to		
Eastoft	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Luddington	2	$5\frac{1}{4}$
Garthorpe	2	$7\frac{1}{4}$
<i>Cross the River Trent.</i>		
BURTON - UPON -		
STRATHER	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{3}{4}$

18 ITINERARY OF THE ROADS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

*At Burton-up-
on - Strather on
the R. a T. R. to
Gainsborough.*

South Ferriby .. $7\frac{1}{2}$ 16 $\frac{1}{4}$

BARTON $3\frac{1}{2}$ 19 $\frac{3}{4}$

Inn—*Waterside House.*

*At Barton on
R. a T. R. to
Lincoln, on L.
cross the Humber
to Hull.*

Barrow $2\frac{1}{2}$ 22 $\frac{1}{4}$

Thornton $2\frac{1}{2}$ 24 $\frac{3}{4}$

*The Ruins of Thornton Col-
lege, L.*

Killingholme .. 5 29 $\frac{3}{4}$

Keelby $4\frac{1}{2}$ 34 $\frac{1}{2}$

*At Brocklesbury, Brockles-
bury Hall and Park, Lord
Farborough, R.*

Aylesby $2\frac{1}{2}$ 37

Laceby $1\frac{1}{2}$ 38

*At Laceby on
R. a T. R. to
Caistor.*

GREAT GRIMSBY $3\frac{1}{2}$ 42

AN ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF ALL

THE FAIRS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

Alford.—Whit-Tuesday, November 8, cattle and sheep.

Barnwell.—May 14, October 10.

Barton-on-the-Humber.—Trinity Thursday, cattle.

Belton.—September 25, hemp, flax, &c.

Boston.—May 4, principally sheep; August 11, town fair; November 30, horses and horned cattle, lasts four days; December 11, beasts.

Bourn.—March 7, May 6, October 29, November 30, horses and horned cattle.

Brigg.—August 5, horses.

Burgh.—May 12, sheep, horses, and cattle of all sorts, October 2, cattle and clothing of all sorts.

Caistor.—Saturday before Palm Sunday; Saturday after May 12, Saturday before Whit-Sunday, and June 1, sheep; Saturday after Old Michaelmas, horned cattle and sheep.

Corby.—August 26, Monday before October 10, horses and horned cattle.

Coulthorpe.—July 5, horses and horned cattle.

Crowland.—September 4, cattle, hemp, and flax.

Crowle.—Last Monday in May, September 4, November 22, cattle, hemp, and flax.

Donnington.—May 26, horses, flax, and hemp; August 17, horses only; September 6, for cattle, flax, and hemp; October 16, horses, cattle, flax, and hemp.

Empworth.—First Tuesday after May; September 9, First Thursday after Old Michaelmas, cattle, flax, and hemp.

Fallingham.—Thursday after Easter, Nov. 22, pigs.

Fillingham.—Thursday after Easter, November 22, pigs.

Folkingham.—Ash - Wednesday, Palm - Monday, horses and sheep; May 12, ditto and tradesmen's goods; June 19, horses and horned cattle; July 3, hemp, hardware, and besoms; Thursday after Old Michaelmas, November 10, and 22, horses, horned cattle, and tradesmen's goods.

Gainsborough.—Easter-Tuesday, and October 20; if the 20th of October falls on Tuesday, the fair is kept on the Tuesday after, shews, toys, cattle, &c.

Grantham.—Fifth Monday in Lent, horned cattle, horses and sheep; Easter-Eve, Holy-Thursdaiy, sheep and horses; July 10, October 26, December 17, horned cattle and horses.

Grimsby.—June 17, sheep; September 15, horses.

Hazey.—July 5, merchandise.

Heckington.—Thursdaiy before April 28, and Thursdaiy before October 10, cattle, &c.

Holbeach.—May 17, Second Tuesdaiy in September, horses.

Horncastle.—June 22, August 21, horses and cattle. This fair was formerly held at Stainton, and is now called *Horncastle Stainton* fair.

Kirton in Lindsey.—July 18, December 11, all sorts of cattle and merchandise.

Lincoln.—Fridaiy in Easter-Week for cattle, kept the whole week; Tuesdaiy after April 11, sheep and pedlary; July 5, last Wednesday in July, and every other Wednesday, cattle and sheep; October 6, November 23, horses, cattle, &c.

Louth.—April 30, Third Monday after Easter Monday, August 5 and 17, horses, and November 22, cattle; Old Martinmass daiy.

Ludford.—August 12

Market Deeping.—Second Wednesday after May 11. Wednesday before Lammas; August 1, October 10, November 22, horses, stock, and timber of all sorts.

Market Rasen.—Every other Tuesdaiy after Palm Sunday: sheep, &c. September 25, horned cattle.

Messingham.—Trinity Monday, merchandise.

Navenby.—August 18, horses; October 17, mostly Welch sheep, and swine.

Partney.—August 1 and 25, September 18 and 19. October 18 and 19, cattle and clothing of all sorts.

Saltfleet.—October 3.

Scotter.—July 6, horses and goods.

Sleaford.—Plow Monday, Easter Monday, Whit-Monday, horses, horned cattle, and sheep; August 1, provisions; October 20, horned cattle and sheep.

Spalding.—April 27, hemp and flax; June 29, horses and beasts; August 26, horses; September 25, Wednesday before Dec. 6, cattle, hemp, and flax.

Spilsby.—Monday before Whit-Monday, Monday after ditto, Monday fortnight after Whit-Sunday, if it falls in May, if not, there is no fair; First Monday in July, Old Stile, all sorts of cattle and clothing.

Stamford.—Tuesday before February 13, horses and stock of all sorts; Monday before Mid-Lent, horses only; Mid-Lent Monday, stock of all sorts, and continues a fortnight for all sorts of haberdashery; Monday before May 12, horses and stock; Monday after Corpus Christi, ditto; St. James's Old Stile, ditto; August 5, ditto; St. Simon and St. Jude, Old Stile, and November 8, ditto and cheese.

Stockwith.—September 4, horses and beasts.

Stow Green, near Sleaford.—July 4, cattle, sheep, &c.

Stow.—October 10, horses and beasts.

Swineshead.—First Tuesday in June, October 2, horses, beasts, and sheep.

Swinestead.—Monday after Old Michaelmas, and October 20, sheep.

Tattershall.—Friday after the 4th of May, and every other Friday in spring, sheep and cattle; May 14, and Sept. 25, horses and other cattle, cloth, &c.

Tidford.—April 16, and December 6.

Torksey.—Whit-Monday, merchandise.

Wainfleet.—Third Saturday in May, cattle of all sorts; July 5, and August 24, very small, chiefly pleasure; October 24, tups and other sheep.

Winteringham.—July 14, horned cattle and goods.

Winterton.—July 5, merchandise.

Wragby.—Holy Thursday, sheep ; September 29, horned cattle.

QUARTER SESSIONS.

THE County Assize and the different Sessions are held at the city of Lincoln, at Kirton in Lindsey, at Folkingham, Bourn, Spilsby, and Gainsborough. Court Leets and Baron are also held at the latter place.

TITLES CONFERRED BY THE COUNTY.

THE province of Holland gives the title of Baron to the Fox Vassal family ; that of Lindsay, Marquis and Earl, to the Berties. Ancaster gives the title of Duke to the same family. The Grey family are Earls of Lincoln, which is also the See of a Bishop. Boston gives the title of Baron to the Irbys ; Grantham, the same to the Robinsons ; Burton, the same to the Monsons ; the village of Harrowby, that of Earl to the Ryders ; Digby, the same to the Digbys ; Bolingbroke, Viscount to the St. John family ; Eresby, the same to the Burrels ; as does Yarrowborough to the Anderson Pelham family, and to that of the Manners Sutton.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

LINCOLNSHIRE is bounded on the north by Yorkshire, being separated from it by the river Humber; on the east by the German Ocean, and by that arm of the sea called *the Wash*; on the west by Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and Yorkshire; and on the south by Rutlandshire, Northamptonshire, and Cambridgeshire. Its form is an irregular oblong. The circumference of this county is about 160 miles, and its extent in square miles, including the Wolds, the heath, north and south of Lincoln, the lowland tracts, and a remainder of miscellaneous tract, of 1,112 miles, in all 2888 square miles, or 1,848,320 acres.

CLIMATE AND SOIL.

This has long been considered as cold, damp, and agueish; but the causes of this have been some years declining. The progress of drainage and cultivation has gradually contributed to render the air more cold and dry. The north-east winds also in the spring are more sharp and prevalent in the lowland districts than farther inland; nor are agues so common as they used to be on the Trent and Humber side. The same effect has also been observed in other districts, in proportion as the country has been more and better cultivated, and fuller of an industrious population. The black wolds and heaths since being generally inclosed and planted, have also materially contributed to the same happy effects. The middle part of the county, and in the western parts along the Trent, is undoubtedly very healthy. The air and climate varies not so much as is generally supposed, but the higher parts are of course considered the most healthy; the air along the sea shore

is supposed to be very salubrious, and hence numbers of persons flock down to the Lincolnshire coast every summer, where are several good inns for their reception. With regard to the face of the country, it must be observed, that there are two ranges of very high land running from north to south through the greater part of the county; that to the east may in some places be termed mountainous, and goes by the name of Wold or the Wolds. Eastward of this lies a very extensive tract of fine feeding land, stretching in breadth to the Humber and German ocean, and many miles in length: it is watered by what are called overflowing springs, which are obtained by boring through a bed of clay that shelves down the chalkstone rock from the Wolds into the sea; on perforating this clay, fine spring water bursts up, and will in many places rise to the height of ten feet above the surface, if confined in a tube; as these can be obtained at a very moderate expense, they are become general, and some hundreds are continually running in different parts of this fine portion of rich land, contributing greatly to its value as well as to its healthfulness. The other or western range, upon which stands the capital of the county, is called the Cliff: these hills are less abrupt than the Wolds; they are divided also into smaller enclosures, and are better clothed with wood. Below these, more westward, is a fine extensive range of rich meadow and pasture ground, along which runs the river Trent.

Lindsey, much the largest division of this county, occupies nearly one half of it, extending from the sea on the east, to Nottinghamshire on the west, and from the river Witham, which intersects the county from east to west, to the river Humber on the north. On this area, which extends upon an average about 45 miles each way, and contains nearly 1,042,500 square miles, the soils are much

varied, and its geographical features are marked by many inequalities. High lands, called the Wolds, occupy a long ride of it from Spilsby to the Humber, with a rich tract of marsh land to the east between it and the sea. Another ridge of high land, called Lincoln heath, extends up the western side of this division, from Lincoln to Brigg. At the north-west extremity is the river and island of Axholme, a low tract of land, formerly a morass; but from the operation of embanking and draining is now become one of the most fertile spots in the kingdom. The river Trent bounds the east side of the island, whilst the rivers Idle, Dun, and Torn environ the south and west sides. The property of this district is chiefly among small proprietors. This division, it may be truly said, contains no fen land, and that of Kesteven very little; in short, not one third of the county can come under that denomination: in fact, the fen part of Lincolnshire, that dreadful combination of bogs, swamps, mires, and pestilential climate, engendering agues, cramps, and endless horrid diseases amongst those unfortunate inhabitants that are destined to live in this dismal territory, is a complete bugbear, and ought only to be vociferated from the mouths of the most ignorant of other counties, whose feet never conducted their optical machines further than to look at the smoke of their own chimneys. Whoever pleases to travel over the whole or greater part of Lincolnshire, with an observant eye, and will examine it impartially, will find it a perfect contrast to what is generally represented; he will discover, that striking features of hill and dale present themselves much more frequently than bogs and flatness; and that the wolds in particular contain some as fine prominent swells, vallies, and distant prospects, as are to be found in any part of the kingdom; but it must be acknowledged that these swells, as well as their ac-

companying dales, are too frequently without timber, which however is not always the case; and even the fens themselves, by the extensive drainage and other recent improvements, have become, generally speaking, as fine land as the county produces, both for agricultural purposes and grazing, and are now considered almost equally healthful to the other parts of the county.

Kesteven is bounded on the north and north-east by the river Witham, which separates it from Lindsey; on the east, by the division of Holland; on the south by the river Welland, which divides it from Northamptonshire; and on the west, by parts of Nottingham, Leicester, and Rutlandshires. The features of this division are much diversified from the variation of the soils; the west part consists of fine, arable, and grazing land, and is well wooded. The south-west part is distinguished by the handsome seats of several of the nobility, and abounds with woods. The east side of this division is low, and swampy. Kesteven, being mostly enclosed, drained, and cultivated, contains much rich and valuable land. Holland constitutes the south-east side of the county, and is bounded by parts of Cambridge and Northamptonshire on the south; the division of Lindsey on the north; on the east by the North Sea, and on the west by part of Kesteven. Most of the drains or dykes of this district communicate with, and empty themselves into, the rivers Welland and Witham; the channels of which have been newly cut, widened, and altered in various places. Holland is divided into upper and lower; both of the divisions entirely consisting of fens and marshes, some in a state of nature, but others intersected by numerous drains and canals, and crossed by raised causeways, called *droves*. The lower or south division is most watery, and is only preserved by its mounds from constant inundations. The water of the fens being of a brackish

nature, obliges the inhabitants to form reservoirs for preserving the rain. In summer vast swarms of insects fill the air, and are a great nuisance to the cattle. Excellent pasture land is formed out of some of these bogs, and other parts of them yield large crops of corn. By the improvements now going on, the lands will be more drained than ever; and, as the river Witham is made wider and deeper from Boston to Lincoln, they will be better secured against floods.

But to return to the fens; these, in their native state, are not without attractions, as they afford various objects of curiosity to the naturalist. The reeds that cover the waters make good thatch, and are annually preserved in large quantities for this purpose. Among the undrained fens very large flocks of geese are still bred; and here are the principal decoys in England for wild ducks, teal, widgeon, and other aquatic birds. Wild geese, grebes, godwits, whinibulls, coots, ruffs, and reeves, the avoset, or yelper, whose bill bends upwards; knots and dottrels, and a great variety of other species of water fowl, breed here in amazing numbers, and obtain plentiful food from the fishy pools and streams. The general period for working in the decoys lasts from October to February; and ten decoys in the west fen are said to have furnished the enormous number of 31,200 ducks, &c.

The heaths north and south of Lincolnshire are calcareous hills, and command many views over the lower region; the heath, now nearly enclosed, is a tract of high country, a sort of backbone to the whole; the soil a good sandy loam, but with clay enough in it to be slippery with wet, and tenacious under bad management, though it is excellent turnip and barley land. This hill slopes sharply to the west, the declivity is of the same nature, but generally good. Between Sainsborough and Newark, for 25 miles, a large tract of flat sandy soil has been

partly enclosed and drained. The wolds extend from Spilsby, in a north-west direction, for about 40 miles, to Barton, near the Humber. They are on an average nearly 8 miles in breadth, and consist of sand and sandy loam, upon a substratum of chalk, particularly about Louth, and in the extensive rabbit warrens between Sayton and Tathwell. But where the friable loams prevail, rich upland pastures are pleasingly intermixed. From Binbrook to Caistor, with the interruption of Caistor Moor, a sandy soil prevails, and thence the same with an intermixture of clay, till they change into the rich loam of Barton Field, a space of 6000 acres. Beneath this line, and parallel with the east shore, an extensive tract of land runs at the foot of the wolds, from north-west to south-east, from Barton to Wainfleet, of various breadths from 5 to 10 miles. This tract is called the *Marsh*, and is secured from the encroachments of the sea, by embankments of earth, and agriculturally divided into north and south marshes, by a difference in the soil, called *Middle Marsh*. The first includes a large extent of rich salt lands, the value of which is well known to the grazier. The second consists of stiff, cold, and tenacious clay; and the intervening land is a rich brown loam, stretching across from Belesby to Grimsby.

At present the soil of the island of Axholme may be reckoned the first in England, consisting of black sandy loams, warp lands, brown sand, and rich loams of a soapy and tenacious quality. The fens form one of the most prominent features of this county. In the summer season they exhibit immense tracts, chiefly of grazing land, intersected by wide deep ditches, called *droves*, which answer the end both of fences and drains. These are generally accompanied by parallel banks, upon which the roads pass, being intended to keep the waters in flood-time from overflowing the adjacent lands.

They not only communicate with each other, but also with larger canals, called dykes and drains, which in some instances are navigable for boats and barges. At the lower end of these are sluices, guarded by gates, termed *gowts*. During the summer, numerous flocks and herds are seen grazing over the monotonous scene, and many of the pastures afford a rich and luxuriant herbage; but in winter they are mostly under water. For lifting the water out of the lower levels into the higher drains, immense and powerful engines have been employed; but still their full effect is not felt, through the original imperfect plan of drainage. To remedy these defects, it has been proposed to pursue the plans laid down by the ingenious Mr. Rennie.

SCENERY.

It was observed, more than twenty years since, by an eminent agriculturist (Arthur Young), "that the discriminating features of this county are strongly marked by nature; and though not among the more beautiful spots in the kingdom, it is upon the whole a better county than general ideas have permitted to esteem it." He then proceeds to remark, that about Belton there are fine views; from the tower on Belmont, Lynn and the Norfolk cliffs are visible, with Nottingham Castle, the Vale of Belvoir, &c.; and in going by the Cliff towns to Lincoln, there are many fine views. From Fullbeck to Leadenham, especially at the latter place, there is a most rich prospect over the Vale of Trent to the distant lands that bound it. These views over an extensive vale are striking, and of the same features are those of the Cliff road to the north of Lincoln to Kirton, where is a great view both east and west to the wolds, and also to Nottinghamshire. Near Gainsborough there are very agreeable scenes; but still more beautiful is the view about Trent Fall; from Sir John Shef-

field's hanging wood and the Rev. Mr. Sheffield's ornamented walk, following the Cliff to Alkborough, where some beautiful grounds command a great view of the three rivers, as the soil is dry, the woods lofty, and the country various, this must be esteemed noble scenery, and a perfect contrast to what Lincolnshire is often represented by those who have only seen parts of it that are very different. The whole line of the Humber thence to Grimsby, is also an interesting object from the higher wolds. The view also from the hill above Dalby to Spilsby is a series of rich enclosures spreading over a varied vale. Partney Church, and a village rising on a knoll amidst some wood opposite, with the cultivated grounds, form altogether a very pleasing scenery.

Thurgunby and Stainton also exhibit some beautiful scenes. The old timber upon the former, an estate of Lord Middleton's, affords a striking feature upon the wolds. The surrounding hills are bold, &c. But we may now add, that this and nearly every other part of the county has since felt the force of improvement, and particularly since agriculture has been brought to a degree of perfection of which there is no precedent.

Among the scenery of this county, Coulby Cliff, near Burton-on-Strather, has been termed a grand and magnificent object, and from its bold oval projection, thought worthy the appellation of the Table Mountain. Its surface in the summer season presents some of the boldest and most enchanting irregularities, sinking into smooth and regular declivities, or gradually rising to a majestic rotundity. At its base is a beautiful field, of moss-like appearance; but this is always covered by the Trent at high water. To this elevation the neighbouring north Cliff of Alkborough, hanging over the Trent, forms a striking contrast by its rough

and rugged features. From Burton Hill may be seen the Cathedral of York, the Churches of Market Weighton, Howden, Selby, Thorne, the spires of Draxe and Henningborough, and the alternate relief of lofty woodland. Flixborough, near Burton, is another elevation, and being regular in its ascent, is like a large terrace, covered with scarlet and purple heath, reminding the spectator of the lines in Pope—

“E'en the wild heath displays her purple dyes,
And 'midst the desert fruitful fields arise,
That, crown'd with tufted trees and springing corn,
Like verdant isles the sable waste adorn.”

NAME AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

Most probably as far as the name of this county corresponded with the Roman name of its capital, *Lindum*, or *Lindecollina*, it is to be presumed that the Saxon *Lincolnsyre* was a natural imitation, though it seems that when the Romans first took possession of this part of the island they gave it the name of *Britannia Prima*. The inhabitants they called *Coritani*. The Anglo-Saxons incorporated *Lincolnsyre* with the kingdom of *Wessex*. The Norman Conqueror, who called it *Nicolshire*, divided it amongst his followers.

POPULATION.

According to the official returns of 1811, there were in this county 46,368 inhabited houses, occupied by 50,904 families, of whom 29,881 were chiefly employed in agriculture, and 13,148 in trade and manufactures; and of other families not comprised in these classes, 7839, making a population of 117,022 males and 120,869 females, and a total of 237,891 inhabitants.

RIVERS AND CANALS.

The principal rivers which rise in this county, or pass through it, are the Trent, Ancholme, Witham, Welland, Glen, and several smaller

streams. The Trent rises in Staffordshire, and taking a north-east course through the counties of Nottingham and Derby, divides the latter from Lincolnshire; it forms the boundary on the north-west side from the village of North Clifford to that of Stockworth, whence it constitutes the eastern boundary of the isle of Axholme. From thence it flows to Aldborough, opposite to which it receives the Don, or Dun, and a little below, being joined by the Ouse, both fall into the Humber. From Gainsborough, where the Trent is crossed by a handsome stone bridge, it is navigable for the conveyance of coal, corn, and various articles of commerce to its estuary. The Ancholme rises in the Wolds, near Market Rasen, and flowing northward by Glandford Bridge, is navigable to the Humber. The Welland rises near Sibertoff in Northamptonshire, and being increased by several rivulets and streams, passes Market Deeping, where, entering the Fens, it leaves a portion of its waters and sludge, accumulated in its passage through the rich lands of Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, and Rutlandshire. In its course from Market Deeping to Croyland, it divides into two streams, one running to Wisbeach, and the other, by an artificial channel, to Spalding and Surfleet, where, meeting the Glen, it falls into Fossdyke Wash, east of Boston. The Witham only is properly a river of Lincolnshire, and is sometimes called Barlings and sometimes Langwarth river. Its source is near South Witham, a village about ten miles north of Stamford, and thence flows almost duly north, by North Witham and Cottersworth, through Easton Park, and to Great Poston, where another stream joins it from Skillington and Stoke Rochford. At Little Ponton it receives a small brook, and then running on the east side of Grantham, proceeds to Belton Park and Syston, and then turns west to Long

Bennington. Here it bends again to the north, and after flowing by Claypole and Beckingham, proceeds through a wide sandy valley to Lincoln. It afterwards flows almost directly east to Grub Hill, where it turns to the south-east, and running in this direction to Boston, mingles with the sea at Boston Deep. Much of the present bed of this river is a new artificial cut, made for the purpose of widening and straitening the channel, and making it more commodious for receiving and carrying off the water of the contiguous fens. These rivers, with those of the Grant, Ouse, and Nene, in the adjoining counties, from the obstruction they meet in delivering their waters to the ocean, have been frequently the cause of drowning a large portion of valuable land. The Foss Dyke is an artificial trench, about seven miles in length, from the great marsh near the city of Lincoln to the Trent, near Torksey. The long bow-like coast is fronted by sand hills or salt marshes, and like those of the Dutch, secured from the waves by dykes, and is so low as to be visible only at a small distance from the sea. The mouth of the Witham is now the sole inlet fit for the purposes of navigation; and here Boston, the port of the county, is situated. A navigation, partly natural and partly artificial, may be made along the Witham, and the canal goes from hence to Lincoln, at the termination of which in Boston is a large and curious sluice. Another canal has also been cut to Bourn.

Besides the canal from Boston by Brothertoft Farm, on the Witham, and that from Witham to Boston, finished in 1796, there is another from Grantham, that runs thirty-three miles to Nottingham, and falls into the Trent near Holme Pierrepont. The Ancholme Cut is navigable from Bishop's Bridge to the Humber at Ferraby Sluice. Besides these, there are canals from Horncastle to the Witham at

Dogdyke; from Louth to the Humber; from Grantham to Nottingham, thirty-three miles; this was completed in 1796, and cost 100,000*l*. Caistor Canal joins the Ancholme, in the parish of South Kelsey. The Stainforth and Keadley Canal commences at the river Dun, and runs parallel with that river, opposite to Thorn, and continuing in a line nearly east, passes Crowle and Keadley, and then joins the Trent. A branch from this across Thorn Common to Hangman Hill, joins the river Dun. The total length of this canal is from fourteen to fifteen miles.

The Ca. Dyke, a canal of great antiquity, passes through . . . and on its way to the river Witham. At West D. . . it enters Lincolnshire, running in a direct line to the river Glen, which it passes near Catesbridge, from whence it may be traced to Bourn, where, after crossing the river Eau, it proceeds through the fens to the Little Ouse, and lastly to Billingham; from thence it falls into the Witham at Bardney. This great canal receives from the hills all the draining and flowing waters, which but for this catch-water drain would serve to inundate the fens.

AGRICULTURE.

An Agricultural Society has been established at Folkingham ever since February, 1796, being the first in the county. The purport of this was to collect the practical farmers together, and to turn the conversation upon topics well adapted to promote improvements: this led to a disposition to turn desultory discourse into some more formal attempts to make a regular subject the object of discussion. Resolutions were at length formed, and though no great progress was at first made, the result evidently shewed, that this Society only required sufficient time to arrange and mature the science and principles upon which they set out.

The soil is so various in Lincolnshire as to in-

clude all sorts of land that are to be found in the whole kingdom, in considerable portions, from the sharpest sand and lightest moor to the strongest clay. Here are also loams of every possible description, and some that rival the best in the kingdom. The calcareous class, in chalk, limestone, and gypsum, peat of many sorts, from a wretched thin covering of bad sands to the deep treasures of ponderous bog. The county is naturally divided into the Wolds, the Heaths, and the Fens. The last division, however, has lately become almost unnecessary, in consequence of the drainage that has taken place. The Fens formerly occupied the south-east parts of the county, and were a swampy and unprofitable waste. The heaths, now enclosed, are north and south of Lincoln, and the Wolds extend rather diagonally from Spilsby to very near the Humber, being in length about forty miles, and in some parts about ten in breadth. Both the Heaths and the Wolds are calcareous hills. The Fens are lands that have been formerly covered by the sea, and by human art recovered from it. Twenty-five years since many of these lands were sold at 3*l.* per acre, but afterwards rose to 20*l.* an acre. Water is generally brackish in the low lands. At Haxey, in the island of Axholme, the water is uncommonly hard, impossible to wash with. Mixed with milk in boiling it turns it to a curd. Upon the Wolds, near Brockelsby, they make artificial ponds for their sheep. What are called the *blow wells* are deep flowing pits of clear water, which run in considerable streams. Some of these are thirty feet deep. There are also many excellent springs, and in the sandy parishes, between Spilsby and Tattershal, plenty of water breaks out of the hills in springs, which, if not cut off, finds its way into the fens below.

Many of what are called the Fens are in a state of waste, excepting that they serve for the breed-

ing and rearing of geese, which are considered the Fenman's treasure. These creatures live in the present state of these lands, where nothing else will. They breed numerous young, and quickly become saleable; the feathers are highly valuable, and the quills of a large flock amount to a very considerable sum. The rabbit warrens of this county, formerly much more extensive than at present, have gradually yielded to the plough.

WOODS AND PLANTATIONS.

These have been rendered extremely profitable by the introduction of the berry-bearing poplar, from Nottinghamshire, and the Dishley willow. Neglected, miserable, boggy, and deserted spots have been converted into productive gardens. Lord Yarborough took the lead of all the planters in this county, for ten years successively, when he planted 100 acres per annum.

MANURES.

Sticklebacks, fish that are used for this purpose, are so numerous in the East and West Fens, that a man has made 4s. a day by selling them at a halfpenny per bushel. They also come from the sea into Boston haven, and the use of them, when they are to be had, is extremely profitable, as they are the most advantageous of all manures. They have even been found to exceed what are called whale-refuse. Pigeon dung is used in some places; lime, of course, in many, with rape-cake, marl, bones, silt, composts, &c. The most singular mode of manuring is practised on the Wolds, that of spreading dry straw on the land, and burning it. Gorse has also been cut and burnt on other lands, for manuring turnips, and answered very well.

FARMS AND FARMERS.

Those in the Holland fen are from 100 to 400 acres; these are of the largest class. On Lincoln beath side, and across to the fen on the other side,

they are sometimes very large, as high as 400l. a-year. About Brockelsby they run from 500 to 1000 acres, and about Louth the same; here rents have amounted to 3000l. a-year. In the manor of Reevesby, all enclosed, there are 62 farms for the rental of 1397l. for 3401 acres. This singular division of farms arose from a determination in Sir Joseph Banks not to distress the people by throwing them together, for which it has been said he loses much in rental, and sees a property ill cultivated! The Wold farms are from 200l. to 500l. a-year. When the ground was let in smaller lots they could not manure those hills so well, and the turnip culture has thriven only in the hands of the larger farmers. Upon the whole, the size of farms in general in Lincolnshire are moderate. The occupiers of small ones, it is asserted, are incomparably less at their ease than the occupants of large ones, as they work much harder than labourers, whilst agriculture in general suffers for the want of produce under their hands.

FARM HOUSES.

These have improved considerably in this county within the last thirty years; they are now mostly of brick and tile, and yield to none for the convenience of offices, out-houses, &c. Besides cottages for his tenants, Lord Carrington has built several new farm houses, barns, &c. The old farm houses are of timber, walled with clay called *stud* and *mud*, and covered with reed; some with wheat and rye straw, which, when new, costs one-third less than brick and tile.

COTTAGES.

A cottage here consists of a room below and a room above: the entrance is into a small room for washing, a sort of common open store room. By this means the keeping room is much warmer than if the house door opened directly into it. The other room is a little dairy, in which beer is also

kept by the stair-case being reversed ; each cottage has a closet under the adjoining staircase. At Reevesby, during the late war, a brick cottage for two families cost no more than 80 guineas. New cottages abound in the newly enclosed fens.

Those in the low rich country are commonly built of what is called *stud* and *mud*, the stud pieces as large as a man's arm. Other cottages have also been built of brick and slate. Round Folkingham, &c. according to act of Parliament, three acres of land at least are assigned to every cottage, including a garden, upon which, for the most part, the cottagers keep a cow. A cottage of stud and mud may now be built for less than thirty pounds.

It is impossible to speak too highly in praise of the cottage system of this county, where land, gardens, cows and pigs, are so generally in the hands of the poor. Upon views only of humanity and benevolence, it is gratifying to every honest heart to see that class of people comfortable upon which all others depend. Besides, wherever this system is found, poors' rates have been low. Still the great object which ought to engage every head and hand is to devise the means of rendering the system universal.

TITHES.

Though compositions have been pretty common in this county, and some exonerations have been granted for giving land, a general desire still prevails among the farmers, that some law should pass for the commutation of all tythe, and with their brethren in every other part of the kingdom, consider this as one of the heaviest of obstacles to good husbandry. The late vast rise of rent is no argument in favour of tithes, as this was owing to a superior husbandry. Agriculture had made a vast progress ; but this progress, it is argued,

would have been much greater had tithe been commuted.

LEASES.

It has been the general practice not to grant leases in this county. Sir Joseph Banks has had no objection to granting leases, but he has never been asked for them. Seeing a tenant of his improving his land by hollow draining, he gave him a lease of 21 years as a reward and encouragement. The best agriculturists seem unanimous in their opinion, that had the custom of granting leases been as common here as in Norfolk or Suffolk, the improvements would have been much greater and more rapid than they have been.

TENURES.

Tenures in this county are much copyhold in the low parts, but not much in the higher land; and a considerable quantity in church leases, some let for three lives, and others for twenty one years, renewable every seven; and many crown lands let for years. Lord Exeter has property on the Lincoln side of Stamford that seems held by some tenure of ancient custom among the farmers, resembling the *rundale* of Ireland. The tenants divide and plough up the commons, and then lay them down to become common again; and shift the open fields from hand to hand in such a manner that no man has the same land two years together, which has made such confusion, that if it were not for ancient surveys, it would be impossible to ascertain the property.

CATTLE.

The neat cattle of this county are proverbially large. The cows, when fat, weigh from eight to nine hundred weight; the oxen from ten to twelve and upwards. They have been remarked as being large in the head, horns, bones, and bellies; thick, short, and fleshy in the necks and quarters; narrow in their hips, plates, chines, and bosoms;

high in their rumps, and their shoulders not well covered; their eyes small, &c. Horses of the black cart kind are generally bred in the fens, and are sold off from the mares quite young. The horses bred in the neighbourhood of Sutton for the saddle, are remarkable for bone and activity, being able to trot 16 miles an hour with the accustomed riding weight. Many of the cows give six or seven pounds of butter in a week. In breeding of sheep, as well as of larger cattle, a fair trial has been given to every kind of live stock. However, the native sheep of this county is a large horned animal, adapted for the rich grazing and marsh land of the place; it generally weighs well when fat, and bears a heavy fleece of coarse, but long stapled wools.

IMPLEMENTS.

These are in great variety in Lincolnshire. The plough is the common one of the fen tract, and a most excellent tool it is; the mould board of a good sweep; the throat a segment of an elipsis; and the form of the share of great merit, always well steeled and sharpened with files; the coulter a sharpened steel wheel. Some persons have affixed to this plough a bean drill of great simplicity for drilling upon the centre of the preceding furrow while the next is turning. Another tool used here is called the expanding horse-shoe, used constantly for beans, cabbages, potatoes, &c. A waggon cart is also used here called a cartoon, the body of which tills up and delivers the load like a cart. It is comparatively of light weight. Scufflers have also been found very effective. Lamb hurdles are contrivances against the loss of lambs in the ditches of the breeding pastures. The contrivance for covering corn-stacks seems also to have originated here. Another useful invention here is a boat for conveying sheep, 52 feet long and 12 in breadth; and when sheep are not the cargo, by leaving the

stanchions, nets and troughs at home, the boat may be adapted to any other use. In the east fen an ingenious and very useful sledge is used for going on the ice, being a small frame that slides on four horse bones, the driver pushing himself forward with a pitch-fork. Thrashing mills, chaff-cutters, &c. are also to be found in great varieties. It may be added, that the wood apparatus, introduced by J. Cartwright, Esq. at Brothertoft, is extremely ingenious.

FENCES.

In Holland Fen white thorn fences are deemed the best; few of these used to be seen in Deeping Fen. The quicks are in general very clean; various modes of planting and securing them are in use. In some places the Leicester method is pursued with one fence of a very small trench, planting the quick upon the surface of the field for the sake of moisture, while the other side of the same field is made a double ditch, three feet deep. The former is found as good at three years growth as the other is at seven.

All the seeds, grasses, and plants are to be found in cultivation in this county.

ROADS.

In the hundred of Shirbeck to Boston, and thence to Wisbeach, roads are generally made with silt, or old sea sand, deposited under various parts of the country ages, and when moderately wet are very good, but dreadfully dusty and heavy in dry weather. In a thaw they are like mortar. Taking the county in general, the roads were much inferior to others previous to the late improvements.

ROMAN ROADS.

The following are the Roman roads branching off from, and stations connected with, Lincoln. The Ermine Street, sometimes called High Street, and Old Street, left the station on the north, and continued nearly in a straight line to the river Hum-

ber, on the southern bank of which were the Roman settlements, or villages, Ad Abum, Winteringham, and Horkstow. About five miles north of Lincoln, another road, or military way, branched off from the former, at nearly right angles, and passed westerly by Scampton, Stow, and Marton, where it forded the Trent, and near which was Agelocum. On the east of Lindum, or Lincoln, the road called the Fosseway, branched off towards the sea-coast. The same road entered the city on the southern side, and in a south-westerly direction communicated with Crocolana, probably at or near Brough, in Nottinghamshire. The Ermine Street joined the last road near the southern border of the station, and communicated with the station of Causennis, supposed to have been at Ancaster. From Bourn this road proceeds through Cowthorpe and Hanthorpe to Stenfield, and passes thence on the left of Folkingham to Sleaford.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The county of Lincoln, it has been already observed, is divided into three parts or provinces, viz. *Holland*, *Kesteven*, and *Lindsey*; the division called the parts of *Lindsey* is much the largest, comprehending all the county from Fossdike and the Witham northwards; the north-western part of *Lindsey* contains the river island of Axholme, formed by the rivers Trent, Dun, and Idle; the division of *Kesteven* contains the western part of the county from the middle to the southern extremity: part of the fens are in the district of *Kesteven*, but the much greater part is in the remaining and smaller one of *Holland*, which occupies the south-eastern quarter of Lincolnshire, being contiguous to the shallow inlet of the sea called the Wash.

These divisions are subdivided into twenty-seven hundreds, and five sokes. *Lindsey* division containing, fifteen hundreds, and two sokes, viz. Asla-

coe wapentake; Bolingbroke, soke; Bradley Harverstoe wapentake; Calceworth, hundred; Candleshoe wapentake; Corringham, ditto; Gartree, ditto; Hill, hundred; Horncastle, soke; Lawress, wapentake; Louth Eske, hundred; Ludborough, wapentake; Manley, ditto; Walshcroft, ditto; Well, ditto; Wraggoe, ditto; Yarborough, ditto; and Lincoln liberty.

Kesteven division is subdivided into nine hundreds, and three sokes, viz. Aswardhim wapentake; Aveland, ditto; Bettisloe, ditto; Boothby, ditto; Flexwell, ditto; Langoe, ditto; Loveden, ditto; Nep, ditto; Winnibrigs and Threw, ditto; Grantham town and soke; and Stamford town.

Holland division contains three hundreds, viz. Elloe wapentake; Kirton, ditto; and Shirbeck, ditto.

These hundreds and wapentakes contain 630 parishes; one city, Lincoln; and 32 market-towns, viz. Boston, Grantham, Grimsby, Stamford, Alford, Barton, Binbrook, Bolingbroke, Bourn, Burgh, Burton, Caistor, Crowland, Crowle, Deeping, Donnington, Falkingham, Gainsborough, Glandford Brigg, Holbeach, Horncastle, Kirton, in Lindsey, Louth, Market Raisen, Saltfleet, Sleaford, Spalding, Spilsbury, Stainton, Tattershall, Wainfleet, and Wragley.

Lincolnshire is in the province of Canterbury and the diocese of Lincoln.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE
COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

*Journey from Barton to Market-Deeping, through
Lincoln.*

BARTON is a market town, 168 miles from London; pleasantly situated at the northern extremity of the county, on the southern side of the river Humber; it is a place of great antiquity, and was formerly surrounded by a rampart and foss, the remains of which are still visible, in what are called the Castle Dikes. At the time of the Conquest it is said to have been a place of considerable importance, being a principal port on the river Humber, and a corporate town, and till the erection of Kingston-upon-Hull, by Edward I. carried on a considerable trade.

The town at present is large, consisting of several streets, but not closely built. There are two large churches: the one, which is dedicated to St. Peter, appears from its tower to have been erected about the time of the Conqueror; but the body of the church has been rebuilt since the introduction of the pointed arch. It consists of a nave and two aisles: in the window of the chancel are two figures in stained glass; one of which is habited as a pilgrim, and is said to represent the famous warrior, Lord Beaumont, to whom this manor was granted by Henry II.

St. Mary's Church, is a more modern building, and is very spacious, but it is considered only as a chapel of ease to that of St. Peter.

Barton is an improving place, and carries on a considerable trade in corn, several flour mills being in the vicinity, and others for the manufactory of Paris whiting, and French barley: this town is however principally noted for being the place where the great northern road passes the Humber to Hull.

A neat packet-boat for passengers, and another for carriages, cross and re-cross the river every day* ;

* The following Table of the time of high-water, &c. at this place, may prove useful to some of our readers :—

TABLE OF HIGH-WATER AT BARTON.				<i>Probability of the Boats coming to Barton from Hull, and going from Barton to Hull.</i>			
				TIME OF COMING.		TIME OF GOING.	
<i>Moon's Age.</i>		<i>Hour.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Hour.</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Hour.</i>	<i>Min.</i>
1 or 16		7	- 3	5	- 10	7	- 40
2 — 17		7	- 51	5	- 58	8	- 30
3 — 18		8	- 39	7	- 20	9	- 20
4 — 19		9	- 27	8	- 10	10	- 12
5 — 20		10	- 16	9	- 4	10	- 40
6 — 21		11	- 5	9	- 50	11	- 30
7 — 22		11	- 54	10	- 40	12	- 15
8 — 23		12	- 45	11	- 20	1	- 14
9 — 24		1	- 29	12	- 20	2	- —
10 — 25		2	- 17	1	- 4	2	- 55
11 — 26		3	- 4	2	- 10	3	- 50
12 — 27		3	- 52	2	- 45	4	- 30
13 — 28		4	- 40	3	- 30	5	- 10
14 — 29		5	- 27	4	- 18	6	- —
15 — 30		6	- 15	5	- —	7	- 10

In this table, the moon is supposed not to be one day old until 24 hours after the change, &c. but in almanacs the moon is reckoned one day old upon the day on which the change happens, and by such a reckoning the boats will come and go sooner than is set forth in the foregoing table; and when the wind blows strong from the north, or north-east, the boats must go nearly 40 minutes sooner than above-mentioned.

The ferry is about seven miles over, besides two horse boats on market days.

Barton has a well-supplied weekly market on Mondays, and another for fat cattle once a fortnight.

On leaving Barton, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about seven miles pass by the village of **ELSHAM**. The site of this priory was afterwards granted to Charles Duke of Suffolk. At Elsham is a seat of — Corbett, Esq.

Four miles to the south of Elsham, and 11 from Barton, is **GLANDFORD BRIDGE**, or **BRIGG**, 153 miles from London, situated on the banks of the river Ancholme, in the centre of the level of that name, the drainage of which was accomplished some years since at a considerable expence, and which is supported by a tax on the land and tonnage on the navigation of the river, which is navigable from Bishopsbridge. about ten miles south of Brigg to Ferraby Sluice, nine miles north of Brigg, where it opens into the Humber. Above and below the town the river divides into two branches, one of which runs through the town, the other a quarter of a mile westward of it, and has a small but commodious bridge over each branch. This town forms a part of the four adjoining parishes of Wrawby, Bigby, Broughton, and Scarby, but it has no place for the established church, except a small but neat chapel. It was originally a fishing hamlet, but has been for some centuries past a small market-town. It is neatly built and paved, and has a good trade, which consists chiefly in corn, coals, and timber; the principal manufacture in the town was that of rabbit skins, which once employed more hands than any other town in the kingdom, excepting London. The market is on Thursday.

A little to the south of Glandford Bridge is a small island upon the river Ancholme, called Ruck-

holm, which was given by Henry II. to St. Gilbert, and the canons of Sempringham, before the year 1173, for the purpose of founding a priory of their order, which was called Newstede, and was dedicated to the Trinity, and endowed, at the Dissolution, with 38*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* per annum.

The Chapter-house of Newstede (Newstead) is yet remaining, and constitutes the principal room of a farm-house; the west entrance to the church or chapel is yet standing.

On leaving Glandford Bridge, and proceeding southward, at the distance of about eleven miles, after passing through the villages of Hibalstow and Redburn, a handsome and well-built village, where is a seat of the Duke of St. Alban's family, sequestered in wood land, we arrive at SPITTAL-IN-THE-STREET, taking its former name from having an hospital, and the latter from its lying upon a Roman road. The Hospital, which is under the protection of the dean and chapter of Lincoln, was founded previous to the sixteenth of Edward II. and augmented by Thomas Aston, canon of Lincoln, in the time of Richard II. Against the wall is—DEO ET DIVITIBUS, Ao. DNI. 1620.

Spittal consists at present (besides the Hospital), of a Farm-house, an Inn, a Session-house, a Chapel, and an Alms-house for poor women. Over the Sessions-house is, *Hæc domus dat, amat, punit, conservat, honorat, Equitiam, pacem, crimina, jura bonos.* 1620, and over the door of the same building, *Fiat Justitia*, 1619. This Sessions-house has been disused since the assize was moved to Kirton, in Lindsey.

Over the Chapel, which is a small edifice, and annexed to the Hospital, is the following inscription:—

Fni anno domini	. . . 1398	} Domus Dei et pauperum.
Non fui	. . . . . 1594
Sum	1616	

Qui hanc Deus hunc destruet.

To the west of Redburn, and something better than three miles distant, is Kirton, in Lindsey, the capital of a very eminent soke of the same name, granted by William the Conqueror to his half-brother, the first Earl of Cornwall; it is at present an irregular built market-town, containing about 241 houses and 1092 inhabitants; the market-place is spacious, and it holds a market every Saturday, with two annual fairs, one on the 18th July, the other on the 11th December, both for the sale of cattle. The principal Courts of Sessions are held here for the division of Lindsey, which were once held at Spittal, and contribute much to the welfare of the town. The Session-house and Bridewell constitute a pile of good appropriate buildings, erected at the county expence. The Duchy Court-house, a good brick building, in which the records, &c. are kept, stands to the north of the town, and near it the Free Grammar-school. The Church is a large massive building, with a tower at the west end; it is in the early pointed style of architecture, with some little remnants of Saxon in the chancel, which was perhaps the original church.

— Pinder, Esq. is lessee of the court, and lord of the manor.

The manor of Spittal belongs to the family of Wrays, an ancestor of whom, who was lord chief justice of England, built the Session house.

About a mile to the north-east of Spittal is NORTON PLACE, the seat of Sir Montague Cholmely. The house, which was built in the year 1776. is a handsome edifice, and contains several elegant apartments, commanding some fine views over the pleasure-grounds, in which is a handsome stone bridge of three arches, over an extensive piece of water.

A little to the south-east of Spittal is Cainby Hall, about one mile to the south-west of which, and on the right of our road, is Summer Castle,

a family mansion of the Wrays, and the residence of Lady Wray. It was erected in the year 1760, and is in the castellated form, being square, with a circular bastion tower at each corner, and an embattled parapet; it is built of stone dug on the estate, and stands on an eminence, commanding most extensive views, bounded on the west by the Peak of Derbyshire, on the south by the high lands of Leicestershire, on the north by those of Yorkshire, and on the east by the Lincolnshire Wolds. Near the castle are evident marks of a Roman camp; for in digging, several Roman coins, broken spears, swords, and bridle ornaments have been found, and in a stone coffin were discovered human bones, cased in searchcloth and lead, with the vacancies filled up with liquid lime and alabaster.

About three miles to the south-west of Summer Castle is Stow, which, though now a small village, is an archdeaconry. The Church is a large structure, in the form of a cross, having a nave, transept, choir, and an embattled tower rising from the center, and resting on new pointed arches. The length from east to west is 146 feet; the width of the transept 77; that of the nave 27 feet six inches; and of the chancel 25 feet six inches. The entrances on the western and southern sides exhibit curious remains of the Saxon style of architecture. The western door-way is formed by three retiring columns on each side, with zig-zag mouldings round the circular arch, which rest on square abaci. Two of the shafts, on each side, are plain, the others octagonal, with a zig-zag ornament. Over this is the large west window, having a pointed arch. There is a very old Saxon arch, on the western side of the north transept, and another with the ends of the mouldings terminating in snake's head ornaments; an arcade, consisting of semicircular arches, with zig-zag mouldings rest-

ing on plain columns, is continued round the inside of the chancel; on the floor is an ancient monument of coffin shape, with a head in relief, within an excavation, and having the following letters inscribed on it:—

† ALLEN - - - - STOE

N - ERU - - ID - -

The clock of this church is a peculiar piece of mechanism, the pendulum vibrating at longer intervals than is usual: the font is very ancient, it stands upon a platform, which is ascended by two steps; the base or pedestal is square, on which is carved a figure in relief, of a dragon, intended as a personification of Satan, and alluding to his fall by Christian baptism: the shaft is circular, and surrounded by eight short pillars, with foliated capitals; the upper part is octagonal, and on each side is an ornamental device.

Near the Church are the remains of a quadrangular moat, which is supposed to have surrounded either a palace of the bishop, or the old manor-house.

About one mile to the south-west of the Church is Stow Park, which is now divided into four farms, a large moated place may still be traced, which, according to tradition, enclosed the bishop's palace; considerable foundations of buildings have likewise been found here.

At the distance of about one mile and a half to the south-west of Stow, is the village of TORKSEY, situated upon the river Trent, at the influx of the Foss Dike into that river. It is a place of high antiquity, having been built by the Romans to secure the navigation in these parts, and as a store-house for corn. Anterior to the arrival of the Normans it appears to have been a place of great importance, having 200 burgesses who enjoyed many privileges, upon condition that they should, whenever the king's ambassadors came that way, carry them

down the Trent in their own barges, and conduct them as far as York.

The remains of the Castle consist of the western front, with four irregular turrets placed at unequal distances, and a fragment of the south end, which was originally part of the offices, but now converted into stables. The building is of brick, except the corners and battlements, which are of stone; it stands about 60 yards from the bank of the river, which sometimes flows up to the foot of the ruins. This castle was founded on the old Roman granary, which was much like Colchester Castle, with circular towers at the corners; the foundations are still visible all along the edge of the original site.

In Leland's time, Torksey had two churches; at present there is but one, which is a small neat building in the centre of the village.

At SCAMPTON, a village situated about three miles to the south-east of Stow, was discovered in the year 1795, the foundations, &c. of a Roman villa, which was situated on the brow of the hill, near the Roman road which communicated between Lindum Colonia and Agelocum on the Trent, a villa of considerable elegance and distinction. Out of 13 pavements, only one was perfect, which was engraved by Mr. Fowler, of Winterton. Some of the walls were of great thickness; and various Roman antiquities were found scattered over the foundations. In two of the rooms were discovered skeletons, which, from some of them lying upon the foundation walls, others being enclosed in a sort of stone coffins, rudely formed of one hollow stone covered by another, and all placed in a portion due east and west. Dr. Illingworth concluded that some Saxon, or other Christian chapel, might have been erected on the site of the villa; which conclusion he considered was supported, from the circumstance of its being upon record that a chapel, dedicated to St. Pancras, did exist as early as the

commencement of the twelfth century on that spot, near to a chalybeate spring, still called *Saint Pancras Well*.

There are several monuments in the Church to the memory of the Bolles family, who were anciently lords of the manor, and had formerly a residence near the Church called Scampton-Hall, which was erected on the site of the West Grange, belonging to Kirksted Abbey. Part of the old walls of the mansion are now incorporated with those of a farm-house, near which is an ornamental gateway, built about the reign of James I. and probably coeval with the mansion.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Spital, we proceed due south along the Roman road, called Ermine Street, and, at the distance of about 11 miles, arrive at the city of

LINCOLN.

Lincoln is divided into two parts, called above hill and below hill. That part called above hill is commonly selected as a residence by the more opulent and genteel portion of the community, while the other is inhabited by merchants and tradespeople, a class of people not less respectable or less valuable than those who live upon fortunes acquired or bequeathed them. The communication between the upper and lower Town is very inconvenient, the street being steep and strait; and, in the steepest part, horses and carriages are obliged to fetch a small compass round. This, however, is almost grown out of use, since the new road has been formed eastward of the town, which renders the communication very commodious and easy of ascent. The trade is wholly confined to that part below the hill. The river Witham is arched over with what is called the High Bridge. The city of Lincoln is large and long, and consists of only two grand streets, and some smaller ones that branch off at right angles. Through one of these the high

road passes to Boston, and that to Wragby and Louth through the other. The entrance by the London or Newark road is by the Norman Southgate, called the South Toll Bar, which is guarded on the outside by the Sincil dyke, running from west to east to some distance below the bar. On passing this lodge, the first appearance of the city is that of a long street, with buildings of every description promiscuously mingled. But the gradual ascent of the houses erected on the declivity of the hill, as crowned by the cathedral, forms a picture which to strangers must appear peculiarly striking and sublime. The cathedral, which attracted the wonder of the traveller at a distance, now charms him with its elegance, and delights him with its symmetry. The just proportions, the harmony of the parts, and the extreme lightness of the edifice considered as a whole, impress the beholder with the idea of one of the most elegant pointed Gothic structures that can be seen all over the kingdom. A small church stands on the right, called St. Botolph's, which harmonizes well with its local situation, and as a foil to the lofty and spacious cathedral. Few places in the kingdom exhibit so many ancient remains as Lincoln: Saxon, Norman, and pointed arches; and doorways, with turrets, walls, mulioned windows, and other fragments of old dilapidated buildings, appear in every direction all through the city, even in barns and stables.

A large part of the suburbs extends from the foot of the hill to the south; and on the north side is another called Newport, once an outwork of the Roman station.

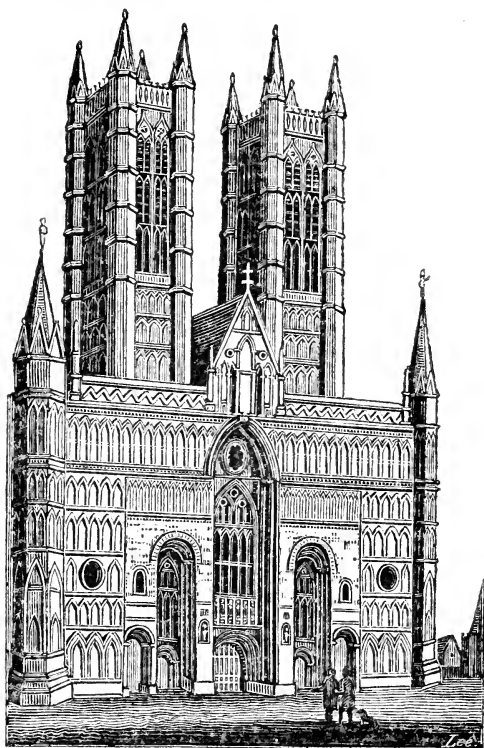
The pre-eminence of being first described certainly belongs to

The Cathedral.

This edifice, or, as it is usually termed, the Minster, is justly the pride and glory of Lincoln.

This magnificent building, from its situation on the highest part of a hill, and the flat state of the country to the south-east and south-west, may be seen at the distance of twenty miles. Raised at a vast expence by the munificence of several prelates, it discovers in many parts singular skill and beauty, particularly its western front, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most unobservant traveller. The first foundation of this structure, it is generally agreed, was laid in 1086, by Bishop Remigius, who was a favourite with the Conqueror ; but dying before it was completed, it was continued by this bishop's successor, Robert Bloet. The edifice, according to the uniform practice of those times, was in the form of a cross ; and its original outline is generally preserved. The west front in particular, and two towers of the old church, and the marigold window still remain, and the towers include one arch on each side of the present structure. This part in fact forms a large square-shaped façade, the whole of which is decorated with doorways, windows, arcades, niches, imagery ; and at the back of this façade are two western towers, which, previous to the year 1808, were surmounted by a central spire of 101 feet high, but was at that period taken down by order of the Dean and Chapter.

WESTERN FRONT OF LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.



The west doors are highly ornamented and well executed for the time; the arches are all semi-circular, and there are statues on each side the

principal entrance ;—they represent eleven kings of England, from William I. to Edward III. In fact the west front of this church has three entrances, including the great west door-way, and two lateral circular niches, flanked by two octagonal turrets, in which are winding staircases, one leading up to the southern, or St. Hugh's Tower, which contains eight bells, and the other to the northern, or Great Tom's Tower. The bottom parts of both these western steeples are of the circular, and the upper parts of the pointed order.

The cathedral properly consists of a nave with its aisles, a transept at the west end, and two other transepts, one near the centre, the other towards the eastern end ; also a choir and a chancel, with their aisles of corresponding height and width with the nave and aisles. Branching from the northern sides are the cloisters, which communicate with the Chapter House. The church is further ornamented with towers, one at the centre, and the two lateral ones before-mentioned containing Great Tom, and a peal of eight bells. These are lofty, and are decorated with varied tracery, pillars, pilasters, windows, &c. Above the statues of the kings, on the west front, is the large western window, with mullions and tracery ; a circular one with a cinquefoil mullion is seen above this, at the sides of which the flat wall is ornamented with a sort of trellis-work or lozenge-shaped tracery, &c.

The panegyrics upon the noble front of this cathedral are too numerous to repeat. On the north-west side of the eastern transept is the chapel, said to have been built by St. Hugh. From this transept is the passage into the cloisters. Near the west cloister is a shed raised to preserve the Roman pavement lately discovered here. The north cloister is converted into a library and cabinet of antiquities, in which are many curious articles, as knives, swords, urns, &c. On the east side of the cloisters

is the entrance to the Chapter House. On the south-west side of the west side of the lesser transept are the lavatory, containing a curious stone laver, like a trough, and the vestry. In the greater or west transept the Dean and Chapter sometimes held their consistory court. The chantries in both ends of this transept are separated by screen-work. From the south-west corner of this transept is an elegant porch, called a Galilee; and in this transept once stood the superb shrine of Bishop Alderby, said to have been composed of a rich canopy, and marble altar tomb, supported by massy pillars of silver, enriched with diamonds and rubies, and enclosed with rails of silver gilt. Not a vestige of this luxury remains. A chapel on the south side, in rear of the west front, is now used as a consistory court. Opposite to this, on the north side, is a chapel for morning prayers, containing the old font. Ascending the west towers, we may take a view of a singular kind of flat arch, called "the elastic stone beam," which nearly crosses the west end of the nave, or rather abuts on the two west towers. It is placed between the vaulting and roof of the nave. Its upper surface is a level, its under one slightly concave; it is composed of many large stones, every one of which is a key-stone, and is so sensibly elastic as to vibrate very forcibly when leaped or trod upon. Hence it is supposed that this was built with the design of propagating the sound from Great Tom.

Among the most laudable changes must be mentioned that of removing the mural tablets and paltry monuments from the walls and pillars of the cathedral, placing them in the side chapels, and repairing the parts which had been hewn away to receive them. It has justly been observed, such things are more faithful monuments of the vanity than of the virtues of the dead.

This church, as built by Remigius, continued

but a few years; for, in the year 1124, soon after the death of Bishop Bloet, it was burnt down, and rebuilt by Bishop Alexander, his successor, with an arched stone roof, for the prevention of fire in future. This prelate rendered his church the most magnificent of any in England at that time; but, notwithstanding his enlargements and decorations, it was still more improved and enlarged by St. Hugh, of Burgundy, bishop of Lincoln, in the time of Henry II. His additions were called the *new works*, a name then given to all additions made to ancient structures.

The height of these two western towers is one hundred and eighty feet. The great tower, in the middle of the church, from the top of the corner pinnacle to the ground, is 300 feet; its width is 53 feet. The exterior length of the church, with its buttresses, is 524 feet; its interior length 482, width of western front 174; the exterior length of the great transept 250, and its interior 222. The lesser, or eastern transept, is 170 feet in length and 44 in width, including the side chapels. The width of the cathedral 80 feet; the height of the vaulting in the nave the same.

The Chapter House is a decagon, or building of ten sides, and its interior diameter is 60 feet 6 inches. The cloisters measure 118 feet on the north and south sides, and 91 on the eastern and western. The groined roof of the Chapter House is supported by an umbilical pillar, consisting of a circular shaft, with ten small fluted columns attached to it, having a band in the centre with foliated capitals. One of the ten sides forms the entrance. In the other sides are nine windows, having pointed arches of two lights each, of the early or lancet point. The architecture of the upper transept and the choir is very irregular, being in the sharp pointed or English style, having pillars with detached shafts of Purbeck marble in different forms,

but all rather light. A double row of arches or arcades, one placed before the other, is continued round the inside, beneath the lower tier of windows, and those which are lofty and narrow are placed two or three together. The great buttresses in front are ornamented in a singular manner, with detached shafts terminating in rich foliage.

The parapet is covered with lead. The vestry is vaulted, the groining having strong ribs, and beneath it is a crypt, with groins converging into pointed arches. The great transept, the Galilee porch, and the vestry are nearly of the same architecture with the choir. The nave and the central tower are of the style that prevailed in the latter part of King John, or the beginning of Henry III. Part of the great tower was built by Bishop Greathead.—Such are the principal outlines of this famous fabric; to describe it in detail, with its monuments and the antiquities connected with the whole, would require a volume.

The *Great Tom* of Lincoln, or the largest bell in England, is thus described by Mr. Southey. “We ascended one of the towers to see *Great Tom*. At first it disappointed me; but the disappointment wore off, and we became satisfied that it was as great a thing as it is said to be. A tall man might stand in it upright; the mouth measures one and twenty feet in circumference, and it would be a large tree of which the girth of it equalled the size of its middle. The hours are struck upon it with a hammer. It is swung on Whitsunday, and when the judges arrive to try the prisoners. The weight of this surprising bell is nine thousand eight hundred and ninety-four pounds. It has been guaged, and will hold four hundred and twenty-four gallons, ale measure. The compass of its mouth is about seven yards and a half and two inches.”

On each side of the great door in the interior is a chantry; that on the west side, built by Bishop

Longland, has an altar-tomb, under an arch of curious workmanship, with his arms blazoned on it. The other chantry or chapel was built by Bishop Russel, and dedicated to St. Blaze. It is most curiously ornamented in stone; and underneath a raised altar-tomb, beneath a rich canopy, the bishop lies interred. In the chantry, under the smallest east window, are two large raised altar-tombs, under a lofty canopy of rich stone-work, with the effigy of Lord Cantelupe, in a surcoat of mail, and another of Canon Whymbish, in his robes. Another tomb exhibits Bishop Berghersh in his robes; a third is the effigy of a man lying in armour, being Sir Robert Berghersh, brother to the bishop. Another chantry in the east end, founded by Edward I. contains the bowels of Queen Eleanor. The monument to the memory of John Lord Welles is perfectly antique; he died in the 35th year of Edward III. 1361. On the east side of the north door is a curious little chapel, founded by Bishop Fleming, having his effigy on the outside, resembling a skeleton, and another within, lying under his tomb, in his pontifical robes.

Behind the high altar of this cathedral are four monuments, enclosed within iron railing; one of these is over the grave of Bishop St. Hugh, in lieu of a costly gold shrine once standing in this place. The inscription is characteristic of this circumstance. The next is a raised altar-tomb, richly embellished, for Bishop William Fuller, and bears a Latin inscription. There are also two other remarkable monuments to the memory of Bishop Gardiner and his son, the sub-dean, with the daughter of the latter, with inscriptions of considerable length, emblazoning the virtues of those worthy characters. At the west wall of the upper transept are the effigies of four bishops, painted as large as life. The great marigold window was built about the time of Edward III.; but the great

east window was not fitted up with painted glass till the year 1762, when it was executed by Mr. Peckett of York. To the left of the choir the two tombs of Remigius and Bishop Bloet appear; and on the former this singular epitaph, written by Bishop Fuller, in 1672:—

“Remigius, the founder of this church, lieth within this urn; 'tis large enough for a little man. But should you expect a sepulchre equal to his mind, to what a structure would that rise! Let then this church which he built be his tomb. Nor should a less noble one be ascribed to his memory.”

In the centre of the chancel is the episcopal throne; opposite to this the dean's pew, and on each side are prebendal stalls, with seats for the vicars and singing men. The other rich, altar-tombs worth noticing are to the memory of Lady Catherine Swinford, wife to Prince Henry, Duke of Lancaster, and another to her daughter, the Countess of Westmorland. The cloisters are on the north side of this cathedral, and the chapter house on the eastern side. The library over the north side of the cloister was built by Dean Honeywood. It contains a large collection of books, and many curious specimens of Roman antiquities.

In order to form some idea of the ancient and present state of this and almost every other English cathedral, since the reformation, it may be remembered that, in Henry VIIIth's time, by the king's orders, there were carried from this church into his coffers 2621 ounces of pure gold, and 4285 ounces of silver, besides an amazing quantity of diamonds, pearls, sapphires, rubies, turquoises, carbuncles, and those two shrines, one of pure gold, called St. Hugh's, the other of silver, called Bishop St. John's, of D'Alderby! After the year 1548, Bishop Holbeach, being a zealous reformist, he, with George Heneage, the dean, gave up all the remaining treasure that Henry had left behind, and

even pulled down and defaced most of the beautiful tombs, breaking all the figures of the saints round about the building, not excepting those of the Saviour, the Virgin, and the crucifix. Again, in the 20th year of Charles I. all the brass work of the grave-stones were pulled up, the rich brass gates to the choir, and several of the chantries pulled down, and every remaining beauty defaced ! Thus the whole of these depredations has formed a transformation so perfect and complete, that nothing under the protestant worship can possibly supply ; nor can it be rationally argued that there is the least necessity for any restoration of this temporary splendour.

Dr. Prettyman, the present Bishop of Lincoln, is said to have done much towards beautifying the cathedral, particularly the west front, in 1814. Previously to the reformation there were no less than fifty-two churches here, exclusively of the cathedral, besides various religious houses of different denominations. Only twelve of the churches now remain triumphant over the ravages of time. Of some of these, not the least memory, even of their site, has been preserved ; and of those that still exist, the cathedral excepted, it has frequently been regretted by men of taste and science, that their structure exhibits so little skill, magnificence, or science, that scarcely any of them are deserving of a minute description. Among the most distinguished for their antiquity or architecture are St. Paul's, St. Martin's, St. Benedict's, St. Mary de Wigford, and St. Peter, at Soats or Sowts.

St. Swithin's, St. Peter's-at-Arches, and St. Peter's in Eastgate, are modern structures ; the first being erected in 1801, upon the site of a former building, destroyed by fire in 1644. Besides these places of regular worship, there are others in Lincoln for Catholics, Baptists, Unitarians, Methodists, &c.

Among the most considerable remains of anti-

quity in Lincoln, we reckon the Chequer or Exchequer Gate, at the east end of the cathedral. It consists of one large pointed arch, vaulted with brick, and two lesser ones of similar design and execution. On each side of the large arch is an elegant octagonal turret, beautifully surmounted with battlements; the gothic windows are various in form and size: and this building is supposed to be of the time of Edward I. At the bottom of the town, near Brayford Water, are the remains of a fort called Lucy Tower. The priory and the close shew several remains of antique gates, towers, &c. The Grey Friars, on the west side of Broadgate, is a large oblong building, with its lower story some feet lower than the ground. Part of this, which was the chapel, is used as the free school, and another room at the west end as the library. Under it is a school for spinning, and in the front, the sheep market. The deanery and the works chantry are two ancient buildings; and of this description also is the vicar's, or old vicar's college. Of the bishop's palace, on the south side of the hill, little remains but the gateway. Of the great kitchen, built by Hugh of Burgundy, part of the wall, with seven chimnies, are yet standing, and three stout buttresses in front. Adjoining to St. Andrew's churchyard, formerly stood the palace of the celebrated John of Gaunt; and in the gable-end of it is a curious oriel window, blocked up, and a chimney built within it. Opposite is a large building, called John of Gaunt's stables, a large structure in the Norman style, with the north and west fronts still remaining, and have several flat buttresses. The entrance is under a horse-shoe arch,—the segment being more than a semi-circle.

The Jew's house, as it is still termed, on the side of the hill, opposite a spot called the bull-ring, is an object of great curiosity. It is singularly ornamented in front; and some of its mouldings re-

semble those of the west doors in the cathedral. In the centre of the front is a semi-circular arched doorway, with a projecting pilaster above. In one of the chambers is a large arched fire-place, and a niche with a triangular bend. This house was possessed by Belaset de Wallingford, a Jewess, who was hanged for clipping in the eighteenth of Edward I. The king afterwards granted the house to William de Foletby, whose brother presented it to the Dean and Chapter, who are the present proprietors. Connected with this piece of history is a shocking act of cruelty perpetrated upon the Jews of Lincoln in those dark ages, under the pretext of their having crucified a child of the name of Hugh. As numbers of those unfortunate people resided here, Lincoln must have been a place of some trade. However, prior to this act, the king had extorted one-third of all their property, and they had solicited leave to depart the kingdom, but were refused. The priests, however, determined to raise money as well as the sovereign, and therefore obtaining the dead body of a child, they reported that it had been crucified, called it Hugh, and made it a Saint, and then levied contributions on all the devotees who came to visit its shrine. The monkish historians of course believed this accusation; but the judicious Rapin calls it a "calumny, invented by the enemies of the Jews." The honest and veracious Fuller knew not how these crimes were proved; but in such cases *poor* proofs are strong against *rich* offenders. The chief authority is Matthew Paris. This monk gravely tells us how this child was fattened by the Jews ten days, (no very long time) with white bread and milk, in a secret chamber; and then how almost all the Jews in England were invited to the crucifixion; afterwards, when it came to be buried, how the earth cast it up again and would not retain it in her bowels; then how it was thrown into a well, and there found by the child's own

mother, who prosecuted several Jews, and had them hanged, some say eighteen, others a hundred; and lastly how the body was given to the canons of Lincoln to make a martyr of!—This crucifixion is pretended to have taken place about the year 1256. But surely no rational being can suppose that the fabrication of this story had any other object than to drive away these people, or to obtain possession of their wealth, by a wicked and detestable contrivance to render them obnoxious. The remains of the Roman wall here is accurately described by Dr. Stukely, Mr. Gough, and Mr. Simpson. This, it seems, enclosed the Roman mint, or a granary, or both, as it enclosed half an acre of ground. Its remains are still called the mint wall, and it runs parallel to the wall of the town.

The environs of Lincoln are not without interest. In a plain on the north side the famous battle was fought between the partisans of the Empress Maud and King Stephen, in which the latter was defeated and taken prisoner. Several battles also took place near this city between the forces of Cromwell and the royal army.

About half a mile eastward are the ruins of a religious foundation, called "Monks' House," near the river Witham. Part of the walls of the chapel, and the outer walls of the apartments, remain almost entire, though the roofs have long been destroyed. Camden seems to have spoken of this place, where he says, the Priory Mill was turned by a spring of a very petrifying quality, as at a short distance east of this ruin there is a spring of this description. The water is similar, in some measure to that of the petrifying springs in Derbyshire, and its medicinal qualities are said to be similar to those of Spa and Pyrmont. It is much resorted to during the summer season. On the new road are what are now called the Grecian

Stairs; this word is supposed to be a corruption of grit-stone, or gristone.

On the top of a hill, at the end of Eastgate, are the remains of a chapel or church, with a house contiguous, called St. Giles's; the house is still kept in repair, but the chapel is a heap of ruins. In an adjoining close is a subterraneous cavern, called St. Giles's Hole; how far it extends is unknown, or whether it be the work of nature or art. Brayford, a spacious lake, to the west of the city, is an ornament to the town, as well as of great utility. The wharfs and warehouses have much increased, and are no small embellishment to that fine body of water.

Another object, which cannot fail attracting the attention of the curious observer in Lincoln, is a conduit in the front of St. Mary de Wigford's Church. This specimen of the pure gothic is understood to be of the reign of Henry VIII. and is surmounted by a small parapet of pierced work, in the form of expanded roses, and this again is crowned by a battlement agreeing in size with the whole. A moulding runs below the open roses, and a little below that another, forming a fillet for a similar border of expanded roses, carved in semi-relief. A niche in the south-west corner formerly contained a statue. The windows are of that pointed arch which is termed the compound gothic, and is the most beautiful of all its varieties. On the south of this edifice are two recumbent figures on the wall, supposed to be Ranulphus de Kyme, a rich merchant of Lincoln, a great benefactor to its religious foundations, and a female with a book in her hands, resting upon her breast.

The High Bridge, which has one arch twenty-one feet nine inches diameter, and eleven feet high, is at least 400 years old. It was widened, and received other improvements in 1815. On the eastern side of this bridge is an obelisk, erected in 1763, beautifully ornamented; and adjoining is a

conduit, which supplies the city with water from the same spring as that of St. Mary and the Grey Friars. The small square used as a corn market has many remains of antiquity about it.

The large and curious piece of Roman workmanship, called the "Mint Wall," near the Newport Gate, is still sixteen feet high, and about forty long.

The Stone Bow is a large tower gateway, crossing the High-street, and is reckoned one of the most perfect in England. It consists of a large Gothic arch in the centre, guarded on each side by a round tower with posterns, &c. And near the bridge, down Chapel Entry, is Scotch Hall, an ancient building, whose windows were formerly full of painted glass. Before the erection of the present commodious Sessions House for the city, the upper room of the Stone Bow was used for that purpose, and the apartments at the east end as the city gaol. Those at the west end are let as private dwellings.

Of the Castle, built by the Norman Conqueror, the few remaining vestiges convey the same idea of original Norman architecture, as that of York, erected much about the same period. The walls are seven feet thick, and enclose a very large area, the entrance to which was by a gateway between two round towers, still standing under a large square tower, which contained magnificent rooms. And in one corner of this area is a curious small building, appearing on the outside like a tower, called Cobb's Hall, which Mr. King thinks was originally used as a chapel, having a fine vaulted roof, richly ornamented, and supported by pillars. The pillars were so placed against the loop-holes that admitted the light, as to prove a defence against missive weapons. The present appearance of Lincoln Castle is, upon the whole, that of an interesting ruin. Its gateways are contemplated

with pleasure by the antiquary and the traveller, though far different are the feelings of those prisoners doomed only to view the inside of its walls. Many of these now enter them once for the last time in their lives, as the magistrates have erected a drop on the top of this building, for the purpose of executing capital convicts.

Lincoln was much improved, in consequence of the act for lighting, paving, and watching it. It is a corporation town, consisting of a mayor, twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, a recorder, four chamberlains, a sword-bearer, a coroner, and 48 common council men. It is a county in itself, and has a jurisdiction twenty miles in circuit, a privilege enjoyed by no other city in England. A branch of the river Witham crosses the High-street at some distance beyond St. Botolph's Church, over which, in the room of two inconvenient bridges, another has been erected, which is both handsome and commodious. Since 1815, a pleasant walk has been made from this bridge to the little village of Canwick, the seat of Colonel Sibthorpe.

The Butler Market, near St. Peter's-at-Arches, originated in the exertions of John Lobsey, Esq. who in 1736 obtained an act of Common Council for applying annually for ten years the sum of one hundred pounds, which was usually spent in the city feasts, to this improvement of the city. The philosophical submission of the Common Council, who voluntarily gave up the luxuries of a good dinner, to confer a benefit upon society, cannot be too much applauded.

The General Market is kept in the lower town. Here is a great trade in corn and wool, both these articles being sent into Yorkshire, whence the vessels return laden with coals. In the reign of Edward III. this town was made the staple for wool, leather, and lead. A fortnight Fat Stock Market

is also held at Lincoln, and is reputed to be inferior to none in the kingdom, except Smithfield. And a meeting has long been held of the farmers and others in February, to commemorate its establishment in July, 1793.

The Spring Stock Market, for the sale of beasts, sheep, &c. is held on the second and last Thursday in March, and the second Thursday in April.

The Depot, or military arsenal, erected in 1806, stands a little to the north-east corner of Brayford, on the Gainsborough road. It is a brick edifice, and may contain about a thousand stand of arms, and is kept by a detachment of invalids from the royal artillery.

The Race Course is about half a mile from the west side of the city, upon a public common, and though without the advantage of a grand stand, is allowed to be as good as any in the kingdom. The races are held for three days in September.

The Theatre is a neat little building, and stands in a yard adjacent to the High Street. It is always open during the races, and about two months in the autumn every year, on Friday in each week. The interior is elegantly decorated with emblematical devices, and is behind no provincial theatre in convenience.

At the top of the hill is a long seat, called the Mayor's Chair, fixed in 1732 at the expence of the city, as a resting place for the aged and weary traveller.

The County Assembly Room is nearly opposite to St. Paul's in the Bail. It is very spacious, and neatly decorated. Assemblies are held here during the races, and here also is the annual one called the *Ladies' Stuff Ball*, for the encouragement of the stuff manufactory. It is supported by a number of the nobility and gentry, who appear in dresses which are the manufacture of the county.

Above the market is the *City Assembly Room*.

Five or six subscription assemblies, besides charitable ones, are usually held in it during the year. Three recesses in this room severally contain large bronze statues, given by the Right Honourable Lady Monson.

Lincoln, though for some time behind the rest of the country in its exertions to provide an asylum for those afflicted with that worst of all calamities, the deprivation of reason, has at length executed the plan laid down eleven years ago. The *New Lunatic Asylum* was intended to stand on a piece of ground at the end of East Gate, on the north of the Wragby road, and this of course was purchased, and the plan of the building being finally determined, the first stone was laid in the summer of 1817. The County Hospital, on the opposite side of the street to Christ's Hospital, was erected entirely by donations and benefactions in 1769. It is a neat plain brick edifice. The City Gaol and Sessions House is situated on the new road, and has more of the appearance of a gentleman's house than what it is. The first stone of the building was laid in 1805, by Robert Fowler, Mayor, and finished in 1809. This building, both as a sessions house and a gaol, is supposed to be as complete as any in the kingdom. It is visited weekly by the magistrates, to see that the unfortunate have such attention paid to their comfort as is required, and upon other business.

In 1814 a public library was founded at Lincoln, as the city was till then wholly destitute of that first evidence of a highly cultivated state of society. A present of books, natural curiosities, mathematical or philosophical instruments, to this society, at not less than ten guineas from a non-resident, constitutes an honorary member, and a stranger not intending to stay in Lincoln more than a month, by having his name subscribed in the admission book by two members, and by pay-

ing five shillings in advance, is entitled to take out books as an ordinary proprietor.

There were formerly two grammar schools here, but these have long since been united in one. The Blue-coat School, or Christ's Hospital, joins the west gate of the Episcopal Palace, and is a neat modern building. Richard Smith, M. D. was the founder of this in 1602, and left a manor and certain estates at Potter Hanworth, for the purpose of maintaining and educating twelve poor boys. Benefactions since left, and the increasing value of the estates, have enabled the governors, in 1815, to increase the number of boys to fifty. These boys wear a similar dress to those of Christ's Church, London. They are taken in at the ages of seven or eight, and apprenticed out at the age of fifteen, with a premium of sixteen pounds.

In 1813 a *National School*, upon Dr. Bell's plan, was erected near the Church of St. Peter-at-Arches, in Silver-street. It educates about 400 boys and girls.

The House of Industry stands on the north-west of the Castle in a very healthful situation. It contains the poor of the several parishes of Lincoln, and as many others as choose to take advantage of its establishment.

The Catholic Chapel, erected in 1799, is deserving the attention of strangers. It is situated in Silver-street, and contains a beautiful painting of "the taking down from the Cross," supposed to belong to the Flemish School, which was presented by the Rev. W. Beaumont, B. D. Professor of Rhetoric, and Ex-Rector of the University of Caen, in Normandy; and was brought into this country by the English nuns of Gravelines, when expelled from thence at the Revolution.

But among the best institutions in this city may be ranked the frequent holding of subscription meetings under the name of charitable assemblies.

When any inhabitant of good character is overtaken by sudden misfortune, or any respectable widow burthened with a number of children, or aged man incapable of providing for his own support, some leading lady or gentleman steps forward and calls one of these meetings, eight or nine of which are frequently held in the year. That the subscriptions are always large enough to relieve the distressed objects most effectually, appears from the lists of the names of widows and others who have received 30, 40, 50 and upwards of 60 pounds each. It is to be lamented that this laudable custom is still almost confined to Lincoln, as the only place where those who have seen better days may be habitually taught to maintain a character deserving the attention of their superiors in rank and fortune.

COACHES, WAGGONS, &c.

Few pass through Lincoln. The mail coach from London usually arrives here between four and five every afternoon, and sets off for Barton about three quarters of an hour after. A mail also arrives from Barton every night, and sets off for London at six o'clock next morning. They stop at the Rein Deer and Saracen's Head inns. A light coach also passes regularly through Lincoln from London to Barton, every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday morning, and from Barton to London every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoon. A coach also sets off for Newark and Nottingham, from the Monson's Arms, at nine o'clock; and another leaves Nottingham every morning, and arrives at Lincoln about half past five on the same day.

Waggons go and come from Barton to Lincoln and London, and *vice versa*, every day in the week, Sunday excepted. A Sheffield carrier comes to the Crown Inn every Thursday night, and returns on the following day; and a waggon from

Louth arrives at the same place every Tuesday and Thursday, returning every Tuesday evening at nine, and every Friday at eleven in the forenoon.

Packet Boats.—Packets sail between Lincoln and Boston daily in summer, and as often as possible in winter. Another to Gainsborough sails every other day, and in winter, when the frost permits.

SOCIETY AND MANNERS.

Notwithstanding the refinement and improvement of the upper and middling classes of people in this county, it has been said that the amusements of the lower class somewhat resemble those of the Dutch. The labourer or the artisan, when the toils of the day are over (and but too often before) takes his post in some neighbouring ale-house, and there, with his pot of beer before him, and his pipe in his mouth, he looks as solemn as a Dutch Burgo-master, and is certainly quite as unsociable. Hence it has been observed, “that it is wonderful how the pipe could ever become the emblem of social harmony; unless harmony consists in silence, and society in sitting so enveloped in smoke that nobody can see his neighbour. The common and almost uniform operation of a pipe of tobacco and a mug of ale, is to wrap the possessor of those fortunate luxuries in the mantle of self-gratification; and having all his immediate wants satisfied, he never recollects that there is another human being in the house till he requires to have his pipe filled, his mug replenished, the candles snuffed, or the fire stirred. Every person knows indeed that the fumes of tobacco have a slightly sedative and narcotic quality, and hence, no doubt, the calm and tranquil stupidity which generally accompanies smoking; and we are only surprised that with such facts obvious to every one it should ever have been honoured with

the reputation of promoting conviviality and an interchange of sentiments."

"The Lincoln smokers," says an intelligent observer, "never open their mouths for any thing like conversation; but, enveloped in smoke, they remain like so many pieces of furniture till they have taken their full *lowance*, or are reminded of their being wanted by some new customer. Unlike their Yorkshire or their Nottinghamshire neighbours, they never join in an equal club, and endeavour to amuse each other by singing, or the witty repartee; but an air of sombre melancholy pervades these dumb *computations*, and nothing like joy or hilarity ever attends such meetings."

But by way of contrast to this disposition among the lower classes, and to clear the credit of this county from any unjust imputation, we have only to cast our eyes upon that radiancy of ability and genius that has emanated from its literature.

LITERATURE AND EMINENT MEN.

The greatest luminary of a dark age was Robert Greathead, whose name was *Copley*, but nicknamed by the French and their copiers, Grossteste. Even Matthew Paris admits that he was "a dreadful antagonist to the Pope, a faithful monitor to his sovereign, a lover of truth, a reprover of prelates, director of priests, instructor of the clergy, supporter of scholars, preacher to the people, diligent searcher of the scriptures, the hammer of the Romanists," &c. He was more a Protestant in Popish times, and a true-born English prelate when the church was devoured by Italian wolves. He questioned the Pope's right to appoint foreign priests to English benefices, refused to make a prebendary of his bastard son, called a nephew, a mere boy, at which Innocent IV. became enraged, and hurled all the Satanic vengeance of the Vatican at the devoted head of the virtuous bishop; but his thunderbolts recoiled

upon himself, and the world was surprised to see a solitary English prelate overcome the power of the Papal monster. His works prepared the way for Wickliffe, and the latter that for the Reformation.

Lincolnshire had the honour of producing Sir Isaac Newton, who was born at the manor-house of Woolsthorpe, in the village of Colterworth, on Christmas day, 1642. Sir Isaac died on the 26th of March, 1726-7. Upon the house in which Sir Isaac Newton was born, the ensuing lines have been written :

“ Here Newton dawn'd ; here lofty wisdom woke,
And to a wond'ring world divinely spoke.
If Tully glow'd when Phædrus' steps he trod,
Or Fancy form'd Philosophy a god ;
If sages still for Homer's birth contend,
The sons of science at this dome must bend :
All hail the shrine ! all hail the natal day !
Cam. boasts his noon, this *cot* his morning ray.”

Cecil Lord Burleigh was born at Bourn in 1521, and died in 1598. John Fox, the martyrologist, was born at Boston in 1517, and died 1587. The patriotic founder of the Charter House, Thomas Sutton, was born at Knaith in 1532, and died in 1611. The late Dr. Willis was also a native of the city of Lincoln, and raised his reputation by his successful treatment of his Majesty after his first attack ; and though he was not equally fortunate in the application of his medical skill after his Majesty's relapse, nor in the case of the queen of Portugal, his reputation remained unabated. The doctor died at an advanced age in December, 1807, and his remains were interred at Gretford church.

Lincoln is governed by a mayor, two sheriffs, twelve aldermen, four chamberlains, four coroners,

a common council, about forty in number, a town clerk, sword bearers, serjeants at mace, &c.

Lincoln, like all other corporate places, exercises a kind of monopoly highly injurious to the general advancement of trade. All persons who have not obtained their freedom are obliged to pay an annual acknowledgment to the sheriffs for the time being, if they carry on any trade.

The freedom of Lincoln might have been purchased formerly for thirty pounds. In 1808 this sum was augmented to fifty pounds, and, in 1814, to one hundred. Apprentices, however, gain their freedom by serving seven years to a freeman.

Within these fourteen years great numbers of spinning schools have been established in the southern parts of Lincolnshire, by the patriotism of Sir Joseph Banks and several other persons of rank, whence considerable quantities of worsted yarn are made that used to be sent away unwrought in the fleece. Much to their honour the same persons have also promoted the wearing of stuffs manufactured within the county.

Woollens and yarn have been considered the staple trade of this county. Ships are built at Gainsborough, and brushes and coarse hemp sacking are made there. There are likewise some factories for the spinning and weaving of linen and flax; but the chief trade of the county is in fat cattle. Lincoln has a great trade in corn and wool, especially to Yorkshire, by vessels which bring a back freightage of coals and other necessary articles for the interior. The only manufactory at Lincoln is a small one for camlets.

On leaving Lincoln, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about five miles pass on our left the village of NORTON, where, in the time of king Stephen, Robert D'Arcy built a priory for Black canons, and dedicated it to St. Mary Magdalene. It had, about the time of

the Dissolution, five canons, with possessions worth 43*l.* per annum.

Here is a handsome seat of the Earl of Buckinghamshire. The site of the Priory having been granted by Henry VIII. to Charles duke of Suffolk and afterwards bestowed by Queen Elizabeth on Sir Henry Stanley, Lord Strange, it was converted by that family into a residence; but the greater part of the old house was afterwards taken down, and the present mansion rebuilt by Sir William Ellys, Bart. in the latter end of the 17th century. The house is a handsome structure for that period; it consists of a body and two wings, the angles turretted, with cupolas at the top; and in the centre rises an octangular cupola or lantern. The grounds were formerly laid out agreeably to the formal prevailing taste of the times, but they have been much altered and improved by the late noble proprietor.

About two miles and a half to the south-west of Norton, in the parish of Dunston, is a lofty column, called Dunston Pillar: it stands in a square area, which is planted with trees, and enclosed by a wall. It is a plain quadrangular stone shaft, of a pyramidal shape, towering to the height of 92 feet, and an octagonal lantern fifteen and a half feet high, with a fane at the top: a ballustraded gallery, resting on a cornice, surrounding it. From the summit is an extensive prospect, including, besides a vast extent of the surrounding country, the cathedral and city of Lincoln. On each side of the pillar is an appropriate inscription. On the north side, *To Lincoln V miles*; on the south side, *From the city CXX miles*; east side, *Dunston Pillar*; and on the west side, *Columnam hanc utilitati publicæ*, D. D. D. F. DASHWOOD, M. DCC. LI. At the time of the erection of this pillar, the heath was an extensive waste, and the roads intricate; so that it was then of great utility. This lantern was taken down by

the late Lord Buckinghamshire, having become useless by the enclosing of the heaths or wastes; and a statue of his present Majesty placed upon it: this was done in the year of jubilee.

Upon a high ridge of land, to the south-west of Dunston, and about one mile and a half to the right of our road, is Coleby Hall, the seat of Lady Kaye. The mansion is a fine old structure, to which additions have been made in a more modern style. The entrance into the grounds is by an arch, intended to imitate the ruins of a Roman gateway. In the gardens are two temples, one of which is dedicated to the late Earl of Chatham, and is of the Doric order; the other is built upon the model of the temple of Romulus and Remus at Rome, from a design of the late Sir William Chambers.

About one mile to the south-west of Coleby Hall, are the ruins of Somerton Castle, originally built by Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham, about the year 1305, by whom it was presented to King Edward I., who afterwards granted it to William de Beaumont. From the present remains it appears to have been a noble and capacious building; an outer and inner moat inclosed an area of considerable extent, the dimensions of which appear to have been about 200 or 250 feet. At the angles of the area are the remains of four circular towers, which seem to have been formerly connected by intermediate buildings. The upper part of the south-east tower, which is nearly entire, is surrounded by a parapet, out of which rise three pinnacles, and in the centre an octangular spire-shaped roof: the south-west tower, which is in ruins, contains an octangular apartment, with eight niches, in one of which is the door-way. In the remains of the north-east tower there is an apartment with a curious vaulted roof, supported by an umbilical pillar, from which spring twelve arches, forming in the wall as many niches, with a

pointed arched window in each. This ruin, with some adjoining buildings, was lately occupied as a farm-house, and was the property of Montague Cholmondely, Esq. In this castle the King of France was kept a prisoner in the reign of Edward III.

At the distance of about 10 miles from Lincoln, and about one mile to the right of our road, is Temple Brewer, formerly a religious house. Previous to the year 1185, there was a preceptory here, first of the Knights Templars, and afterwards of the Hospitallers, who had annexed such possessions to it as were valued, upon the suppression, at 184*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum. The only remains of this house at present are a few vaults and the tower of the church, which is said to have been built after the model of that of St. Sepulchre at Jerusalem. It is a massy quadrangular building, and is accessible to the top by a winding stone staircase: the lower part, which is nearly entire, is used by the occupier of an adjacent farm-house; it has a window with a double pointed arch, and the entrance is by a retiring circular-headed doorway. The Ermine street hereabout is very bold and perfect, made of stone gathered all along from the superficial quarries. It goes perfectly strait from Ancaster to Lincoln full north, butting upon the west side of Lincoln town. It is about thirty feet broad, made of stone piled into an easy convexity. There is generally likewise a little trench dug on both sides the road.

Proceeding southward, at the distance of about 14 miles from Lincoln, is SLEAFORD, a considerable market-town, situated upon a small rivulet called the Sleas, which rises in the vicinity, and runs to Chapel Hill, where it falls into the river Witham. The Sleaford navigation forms a communication with Boston. It is a populous town. The church is a handsome, spacious, pointed Gothic structure,

consisting of a nave, a chancel, and a transept, and north and south aisles, with a tower crowned by a spire, which rises to the height of 144 feet. The windows, pinnacles, and ornaments, are all greatly diversified, and some of them particularly elegant; and there are some Saxon ornaments at the west end. In the chancel are several monuments to the memory of the family of the Carrs, some of whom were long resident in the neighbourhood. In the year 1603 a free school was founded here by Joseph Carr, one of this family; as also an hospital for twelve poor men. In the reign of Henry I. there was a castle in the south-west part of the town, but only a part of its wall is now standing. Here is a well-supplied market on Monday, and four annual fairs. The town is situated 116 miles from London.

Four miles to the east of Sleaford is HAVERHOLME PRIORY, the seat of Sir Jenison William Gordon, Bart. who, in the year 1788, made numerous additions to the old remains, of which he has formed a mansion in a style corresponding with the importance of the place. The house and grounds occupy an area of about 300 acres, which constitute an island, formed by two branches of the river Lea.

At the distance of about five miles from Sleaford, in our road, is the village of ASWARBY, the church of which has an elegant tower and spire, and adjoining the village is the mansion and park of Sir Christopher Whichcote, Bart.

About three miles from Aswarby is FOLKINGHAM, a small town, pleasantly situated on a rising hill, 107 miles from London, in a healthy and fine sporting country. The church, a fine building in the pointed style, stands at the north-west end of the town, consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a chancel and porch, with a room over it, and a handsome lofty stone tower, crowned with

eight crocketed pinnacles. Here was formerly a castle, destroyed in the civil wars. The new county gaol here is a handsome building.

To the south-east of the town is a large encampment, with a deep foss and lofty vallum. Within the area is a keep of raised earth, of a square form, defended likewise by a foss capable of being filled with water from the adjoining brook; at the north-east corner, without the area, is a small fortified enclosure, apparently intended as an advanced work to secure the water for the use of the garrison.

At WALCOT, a small village about a mile to the north-west of Folkingham, is a chalybeate spring, formerly famous for its medicinal virtues.

At Bridgend, about two miles to the north-east of Folkingham, was a Gilbertine priory founded in the time of King John, by Godwinus, a rich citizen of Lincoln.

About two miles to the south of Bridgend is the village of SEMPRINGHAM, where Gilbert de Sempringham, rector of the church of St. Andrew here, having instituted a new order, from him and from this place, called the Gilbertine or Sempringham order, about the year 1189. The priory stood to the north-east of the church; and the site is still marked by a moated area. The church, which serves the two parishes of Royton and Billingborough, is only a part of the ancient edifice. The transepts are down, and the chancel is in ruins. The windows are lancet-shaped, and the doors have circular arches, with ziz-zag mouldings, from which it appears to have been erected in the early Norman period.

Near this place was found a fragment of a large Roman urn or vase, of fine light red earth, representing Victory, with a hare behind her, and part of a gauntlet, with a standard, wreaths, &c. in bas-relief, with many beads of divers colours.

About seven miles from Aslackby, after passing through the village of Morton, we arrive at BOURN, a market-town, situated in a flat adjoining the fens.

Bourn is situated about 94 miles from London, in a flat country adjoining the fens, and consists of four streets, exclusive of out streets. The ancient town-hall, in the centre of the market-place, is said to have been built by one of the Wake family, though the arms of Cecil, carved in basso relievo, are over the centre of the east front. Under the hall are the butchers' shambles. The cross formerly stood on the west of the market.

The church of Bourn is dedicated to St. Simon and St. Jude, and is a handsome building, and formerly had two large square towers at the west end, the northernmost of which is now nearly demolished. It consists of a lofty chancel, a nave with side aisles, and a short transept on each side. The nave is separated from the aisles by circular plain arches springing from large columns, exhibiting a specimen of the early Norman style. At the west end are pointed arcades, over which are two lancet windows, and a large one having four mullions with tracery. There is a similar window at the east end, and near the south entrance an octangular front, very antique, with an inscription round it scarcely legible.

A remarkable building in this town is the Bull Inn, built by William Lord Burleigh; and in one of the rooms was a pannel with the portrait of Queen Elizabeth, habited in black velvet and jewels, a long white lawn veil, and holding a wooden sieve or colander in her left hand. The Red Hall here consists chiefly of brickwork. It is partly surrounded by a deep moat, and partly by a morass, and has long been in the possession of the family of the Digbys.

The ruins of the Abbey here, though small, proclaim its former magnificence. On its site is the seat of the Pochin family. The remains of the castle are still less. The inhabitants have a tradition that it was demolished by the parliamentary forces under Cromwell, on account of the inhabitants adhering to Charles I. The free school here, on the east side of the church-yard, is a spacious handsome building, and was founded and endowed with 30*l.* per annum for the master, in the second year of Charles I. by William Trollope, Esq. He also founded an hospital, on the south side of the church-yard; besides this there are six alms-houses in Water-street for poor women.

The spring here called Bourn-well-head, is remarkable for its purity and quantity. The only manufacture carried on here to any considerable degree is the tanning business. Its trade with Boston is much facilitated by a canal for boats of ten tons. Bourn Common is distinguished by its horse races. The unfortunate Dr. William Dodd was the son of a vicar of this place.

About three miles to the north-west of Bourn is the village of EDENHAM; the church of which consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a chancel, south porch, and handsome western tower; the latter of which is of more modern erection than some parts of the church, being probably built about the time of Henry VI. This church was formerly appropriated to the abbey of Vaudey, but was since a curacy in the gift of the Duke of Ancaster, to the memory of whose ancestors are several monuments in the church.

Two miles to the north-west of Edenham is Grimsthorpe Castle, the seat of Lord Gwydir. The house is a large irregular structure, and appears to have been erected at different periods. The south-east tower is embattled at the top, and

contains a winding stone staircase, leading to a room having windows similar to those of many ancient castles, and appears to have been built as early as the time of Henry III.; the principal part of the house, however, was erected in the time of Henry VIII. Fuller calls it an extemporary structure, raised suddenly by Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, to entertain that monarch, in his progress through that part of the kingdom. The handsomest part of the building is the north front, which was erected between the years 1722 and 1723, from a design and under the direction of Sir John Vanbrugh: it consists of two lofty wings, balustraded at top, and a pinnacle at each corner. The house is very convenient, and some of the apartments elegantly fitted up; the great hall, which is 50 feet long by 40 in breadth, and of a proportioned height, was fitted up to receive a suit of hangings made of Gobelin tapestry, which the Duke came into possession of by his wife Mary, Queen of France: at each end is a stone staircase, separated from the room by stone arches. The east, west, and south fronts, which have embattled turrets at the angles, were erected about the same time with the hall; the north-west tower contains a beautiful chapel. From the hall a stone staircase leads to the principal apartments. The first is a tea-room, richly ornamented with fluted pilasters of the Corinthian order, finely carved and gilt, the ceilings, cornices, &c. are ornamented with gilt scrolls, on a light red colour, in a most light and elegant manner. The dining-room, which is 40 feet by 27, has two bow windows, and is fitted up with gilt ornaments on a blue ground. The festoons of gilt carving among the pictures, &c. are in a light and pleasing taste; and the chimney is one of the most elegant in England; under the cornice are three basso-relievos in white marble,

but not polished; in the centre is a man pulling a thorn out of a lion's paw, well executed; these are upon a ground of Sienna marble, and have a fine effect; they are supported on each side by a fluted Ionic pillar of Sienna. In this are several family portraits, and other capital pictures. The blue damask bed-chamber is elegant, being hung with blue paper, upon which are painted several different landscapes in blue and white, with representations of frames, and lines and tassels in the same; the toilet is in a bow window, and is likewise blue and white. Adjoining this room is the breakfasting-closet, which is extremely elegant, and quite original. It is hung with fine India paper, the ceilings in arched compartments, the ribs of which join in the centre, forming the gilt rays of a sun; the ground is prettily dotted with coloured India birds; the window-shutters, the doors, and the front of the drawers (let into the wall) are all painted in scrolls and festoons of flowers, in green, white, and gold; the sofa, chairs, and stool frames, being of the same.

The very extensive park, with verdant groves, fish-ponds, and the noble castle, superbly and elegantly fitted up by its present owner, Lord Gwydir, affords abundant resources for rural gratifications. Edenham Spa was much frequented some years ago by asthmatic and consumptive persons; but, as the late Duke of Ancaster was not pleased with seeing many persons about his castle, it fell into disuse.

About one mile to the north-west of Grimsthorpe Castle is CORBY, a small market-town; its market is on Mondays. The town contains nothing worthy of mention, except a school for the sons of poor deceased clergymen.

At IRNHAM, a pleasant village, about a mile to the north of Corby, is a handsome seat of the late Everard Arundel, Esq.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about seven miles from Bourn, after passing through the villages of Thurlby, Baston, and Langtoft, we arrive at MARKET-DEEPING, a small market-town, situated among the fens, on the north side of the river Welland, 87 miles from London. Its name is derived from its situation; the land on the east of it being the lowest in the whole county. This town is old, ill-built, and dirty.

About one mile to the east of this town is ST. JAMES'S DEEPING, commonly called East Deeping, a considerable village, containing 266 houses, and 1160 inhabitants. Here was a small chapel, erected by the monks of Croyland Abbey, for the dissemination of the gospel: but it was afterwards converted into a parish church by Richard de Rulos. In the year 1139, a priory of Benedictine monks was founded here by Baldwin Wac, or Wake, which was given to the Abbey of Thorney, by his grandson Baldwin. In this town is the base of a fine stone cross.

To the east of this village is a large tract of marsh land, called Deeping Fen, which is thus described by Mr. Ward, who was clerk to the trustees for inclosing this district. It belonged "to several parishes, and is partly holden by persons who are free from drainage expences, by the nature of their buildings; and all the land is free from every other charge of assessment, and from land taxes and ecclesiastical demands. But though there is no poor assessment, relief is granted by the adventurers to some poor persons who do properly belong to the district of taxable land, which expence is mixed with the account of monies expended in supporting the works. But as to the free lands, which are about one third part of the whole, every separate farmer maintains his own poor, without any connexion with others. I suppose there are not a great number settled upon them, for being aware of the peculiar burden, I

believe they make such contracts for hiring, as to avoid as much as possible having people settled on them. I have sent below a copy of the clause in the act of parliament, relative to the maintenance of our poor, which will shew the foundation of that business, and is all, I believe, in any part of the acts respecting it, viz. 16 and 17 of Charles II. p. 37. ‘ But all and every the inhabitants that may hereafter be upon any part of the said third part, or upon any part of the five thousand acres, and are not able to maintain themselves, shall be maintained and kept by the said trustees, their heirs, and assigns, and the survivors of them, and never become chargeable in any kind, to all or any of the respective parishes, wherein such inhabitant or inhabitants shall reside or dwell; any statute or law to the contrary notwithstanding.’ The qualification is, being holder of 200 acres or upwards. The inclosed fen was formerly part of the common, belonging to several parishes adjoining. There is no church in the district; the inhabitants go to the neighbouring towns to church.”

Two parishes have lately been formed in the fens of Lincolnshire, distinguished by the names of Thornton and Carrington; in each of these a chapel has been erected, to which the bishop of the diocese has licensed the Rev. T. Milchenson.

About six miles to the west of Market-Deeping, and 89 from London, is STAMFORD, an ancient borough and market-town, situated on the northern bank of the river Welland (over which it has a fine stone bridge of five arches), in the south-west corner of the county, on the borders of Northamptonshire and Rutlandshire.

This town was fortified by Edward the Elder, against the Danes, and a very strong castle built on the south side of the river, opposite the town, of which not the smallest vestige remains. King Stephen, during his war with the empress, built a

castle within the town, of which the foundations are still visible.

In this town the barons met to concert measures against King John, at which time it was a large place, having fourteen parish churches; but in the Civil Wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, it suffered so much from the latter by fire and sword, that it never after fully recovered itself, and the churches were, by order of Edward VI., reduced to seven; at present there are but five, viz.

St. Michael's Church, which stands near the centre of the town, is an old structure, part of it having been built prior to the year 1230. It consists of a nave, north and south aisles, a choir, with north and south chancels, which extend beyond the aisles. The windows have formerly been highly ornamented with painted glass, but the figures, arms, &c. are sadly mutilated. In the year 1705, in rebuilding the eastern end of the choir, there were found in the wall, thrown in as rubbish, several sculptured stones, the fragments of some religious building, which had existed anterior to the present edifice.

St. Mary's church has a handsome spire, without battlements, having at each corner of that part where it begins to contract, the figures of the four Evangelists, placed under elegant canopies. This church appears to have been built about the latter end of the 13th century, and probably on the site of one as early as the Conquest, as the inhabitants consider this as the mother church.

St. George's Church, which is a large plain structure, consists of a nave, a chancel, north and south aisles, with a square embattled tower at the west end: the windows of the aisles have three lights, and pointed flat arches, and are large; those of the nave have square heads. It was rebuilt in 1450, at the sole expence of William Bruges, first Garter king at arms, who bestowed numerous jewels, rich

plate, and other rich ornaments upon this church. In the chancel windows, which are very large, were numerous figures in stained glass. In this church are interred the remains of David Cecil, Esq. who was high sheriff of Northamptonshire in the year 1542, and grandfather to the first Lord Burleigh.

All Saint's Church, which is a large and well-proportioned structure, consists of a nave, two aisles, and two chancels. The steeple, which is situated at the west end of the north aisle, is a lofty, handsome, embattled structure, with octangular turrets at the corners, and crowned by a neat octangular spire. This church was built at the expence of a Mr. John Brown, merchant of the staple at Calais, who with his wife lie buried at the upper end of the north aisle.

St. John the Baptist's Church was rebuilt about the year 1452. It consists of a nave and two aisles, with a chancel at the east end of each, which are separated from the nave and aisles by elegant screen-work, and the roof has been highly decorated with figures carved both in wood and stone.

Besides these churches is that of St. Martin's, situated in Stamford Baron, that is to say, in that part of the town which stands on the other side of the river, which, though it is not a part of the town, critically speaking, being not in the liberty, and in the county of Northampton, yet it is called Stamford, and is rated with it in the taxes.

This church, which was erected in the reign of Edward the Fourth, is a large handsome building, consisting of a nave, two chancels, north and south aisles, and a square pinnaced tower at the west end of the north aisle. In this church is a very noble cenotaph in memory of William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, who lies buried in a large vault just under it; and opposite to it, on the north side, is a more ancient monument, though not so magnificent as

the former, in memory of Richard Cecil, Esq. and Jane his wife, the father and mother of the said famous Lord Burleigh; also a more modern monument for the fifth earl, and his countess, sister of the first Duke of Devonshire: this is a finished piece, and is of the finest marble, and made at Florence. The said earl died on his return from Rome at Isley near Paris, August 29, 1700; the inscription, which is in Latin, was written by Matthew Prior.

In Stamford were formerly several religious houses, besides one in the parish of St. Martin.

Near the site of St. Peter's Gate, which was taken down in the year 1770, is St. Peter's Hospital, which is a well-contrived building, erected for the reception of eight poor men and their wives, whose age, to be admissible, must be more than sixty.

In the Scogate is an hospital, called Truesdale's Hospital, for six poor men, who have three shillings and sixpence weekly, and an annual allowance of clothes and coals. Besides these, there are other charitable institutions, named Callises, which afford an asylum for nearly 30 poor women.

Stamford is a large town and well built, the houses being chiefly of freestone, and covered with slate. The Town Hall is a large insulated structure, standing near St. Mary's church; it was built about the year 1776, when the old hall was taken down; it has two handsome fronts, and the whole is divided into 22 apartments, comprising the municipal rooms, a guard room, house of correction, and a gaol.

The Theatre, which stands in St. Mary Street, was erected in the year 1768, after the model of those in London. Here are also assemblies, balls, &c.

The river Welland is navigable to the town for boats and small barges; and it is supplied with water

from Wolthorpe, whence it is conveyed by iron pipes. The principal trade is in malt, coal, and freestone.

The government of this town is by a mayor, 12 aldermen, and 24 burgesses; and it sends two members to Parliament; the right of election is in the inhabitants paying scot and lot, and not receiving alms; the number of voters is about 500. The returning officer is the mayor.

The inhabitants of this town boast of great privileges, especially as to the mayor; such as being freed from the sheriff's jurisdiction, and from being impannelled on juries out of the town; to have the return of all writs, to be freed from all lord-lieutenants, and from their masters, and for having the militia of the town commanded by their own officers, the mayor being the king's lord-lieutenant, and immediately under his majesty's command, and to be esteemed (within the liberty and jurisdiction of the town) the second man in the kingdom; and the grant of those privileges concludes thus: "*Ut ab antiquo usu fuerunt*;" "As of ancient time they had been accustomed:" so that this charter, which was granted by Edward the Fourth, in the year 1461, appears to be only a confirmation of former privileges, not a grant of new ones. In this town subsists the custom of Borough-English, by which the younger sons inherit the lands and tenements of the father dying intestate. This, as well as the law of Gavel-kind, which prevails in Kent, was of Saxon origin; respecting the reason of its introduction, there are various opinions.

A singular custom, called bull-running, which has been instituted nearly 600 years, is held here annually, on the festival of St. Brice. The circumstances which gave rise to this plebeian carnival are said to be as follow: William, Earl of Warren, lord of the town in the reign of King John, observing

two bulls contending for a cow, and that all the butchers' dogs, alarmed at their bellowing, ran out, and singling one of them, pursued it through the streets, was so pleased at the diversion, that he gave all the meadow where it commenced, after the first crop was off, for a common to the butchers of the town, on condition that they should find a bull six weeks before every Christmas, to perpetuate the sport. This boast of blackguardism still subsists.

Journey from Lincoln to Grimsby, through Market Rasen and Caistor.

On leaving Lincoln, we proceed in a north-easterly direction, and at the distance of six miles, cross the Langworth river over a bridge of the same name; about two miles to the right of which, on the western side of the river, are the remains of an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, which was dedicated to St. Mary, and founded about the year 1154.

About three miles to the east of Langworth Bridge, at a place called Bullington, Simon Fitz-William, or de Kyme, in the time of King Stephen, built a religious house (of which there are some remains) for a prior and convent of both sexes, under the rule of St. Gilbert of Sempringham.

Two miles to the east of Bullington is WRAGBY, a small market-town, situated at the junction of the turnpike roads leading from Lincoln to Louth and Horncastle, 144 miles from London.

The manor of Wragby, at present, is in the possession of Edmund Turnor, Esq. who has a seat about two miles to the east of the town, called Panton House, which was built in the year 1724, by Hawksmoor, a pupil of Sir John Vanbrugh's; since that time, however, several additions have been made to it, from the designs of Mr. Carr,

architect, of York; the adjacent country has likewise been greatly improved by ornamental plantations.

About one mile to the south-west of Wragby are the remains of Goltho Hall, formerly the residence of the Grantham family; and about four miles to the south of which are the ruins of the once celebrated Abbey of Bardney, which was founded in the time of the Saxons, previous to the year 647, to which Ethelred, king of Mercia, was a great benefactor, and having resigned his crown, turned monk, and was appointed abbot of this monastery, which is said to have had 300 monks. There are no remains of Goltho Hall, but a bare hill on which it stood, encompassed with moats. The last of the Granthams built a new mansion, about half a mile south of this; it, together with the estate, is the property of C. Mainwaring, Esq. The chapel belonging to the old Hall is now used for the parochial place of worship.

Two miles to the north of Wragby is Holton Lodge, a seat of the late Colonel Caldicot, in whose family the village of Holton has been vested for several generations.

About three miles eastward of Bardney Abbey, is that of Topholme, founded for Premonstratensian canons, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, by Alan de Neville and his brother Gilbert, in the time of Henry II. Part of the north wall of the church still remains. About a mile and a half further south are the remains of a Priory, consisting of part of the porter's lodge, and a few other small ruins. To return: Bardney village lies about half a mile south of the Abbey; it is a large but poor place, in a low flat country. The church is a good building, with an embattled tower and ancient small font: in this church is put up, with great propriety, an account of several donations,

applicable to various purposes. There is a free-school, founded by Thomas Kitching, of Tupholme, the salary of which is about thirty-five pounds per annum; and likewise an alms-house, or hospital, built by Peter Hancock, Esq. in 1712.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about nine miles, after passing through the villages of Stainton, Revelsby, Snelland, Wickenby, Lissington, and Linwood, we arrive at MARKET RASEN*. The market is well frequented, but this town contains nothing remarkable, except the peculiar form of the upper windows in the embattled tower of the church, which have a pointed arch, divided into two pointed lights, and a quatrefoil head; up the centre goes a strong mullion, crossed by a transom, terminating at the imposts; on the south side of the tower is a representation of our first parent on the branches of a fruit tree, on the trunk of which is the dart of death, allusive to the effects of eating the forbidden fruit. In the endowment of this living, the vicar is entitled to the unusual tythe of ale. Here is a Roman Catholic chapel, a Methodist meeting-house, a small free-school, and an hospital for four poor men.

The village of Middle Rasen is situated about one mile to the west of the last-mentioned place, and has a small church, with a curious entrance porch, with zig-zag, nail-head, and other mouldings; an elegant screen-work, beneath a pointed arch, separates the chancel from the nave, which appears to have had side aisles, as the pillars and pointed arches stand in relief from the present

* The three Rasens are spelled thus, being seated on a small stream called the RASE. At Market Rasen, this stream flows into the Ancholme.

wall. This place is divided into two parishes, called Drax and Topholme, in the latter of which was an abbey of Premonstratensian canons.

At the village of North Willingham, situated about three miles to the east of Market Rasen, is a seat of Ayscough Boucherett, Esq. The present house, which is an elegant structure, was built in the year 1790, on the south-west side of the Wolds, and about two miles from the ancient mansion.

About seven miles to the north-east of Market Rasen, in our road, is the town of CAISTOR, 159 miles from London, which, according to Camden, was called by the Britons, *Caer Egarry*, and by the Saxons, *Thong Castor*. The latter name is said to have been derived from the following circumstance: Hengist, the Saxon general, after defeating the Picts and Scots, obtained from Vortigern, who here received the cup from Rowena, besides very extensive possessions in other parts of this island, as much land at this place as he could encompass with the hide or skin of an ox, which being cut into small strips or thongs, encircled a large plot of ground, on which he built a fortified mansion, afterwards called *Thong Castle*.

In different places from under the castle walls, almost quite round, rise several springs, one of which, called *Cypherwell*, is very peculiar. Its waters flow in four different directions, between the joints of large stones, which are laid flat like a wall, and connected together by rivets of lead, probably first by the Romans.

The Church of Caistor is an ancient edifice of the pointed style, with remains of Saxon work about the steeple and other parts. On every Palm Sunday, the following singular ceremony of the Whip takes place at this Church. It is thus described by a recent eye-witness.

THE CEREMONY OF THE WHIP.

A person from Broughton brings a very large ox-whip, called in Lincolnshire a gad-whip*, constructed as follows. A large piece of ash, or any other wood, tapered towards the top, forms the stock; it is wrapt with white leather half way down, and some small pieces of quicken-tree (mountain ash) are enclosed. The thong is also very large, and made of strong white leather. The man comes to the north porch, about the commencement of the first lesson, and cracks his whip in front of the porch door three times; he then, with a deal of ceremony, wraps the thong round the stock of the whip, puts some rods of mountain ash lengthwise upon it, and binds the whole together with whip-cord: he then ties to the top of the whipstock a purse containing two shillings, but originally twenty-four silver pennies, and taking the whole upon his shoulder, he marches into the church, where he stands in front of the reading-desk till the commencement of the second lesson: he then goes up nearer, waves the purse over the head of the clergyman, kneels down on a cushion, and continues in that position, with the purse suspended over the head of the clergyman, till the lesson is ended. After the service is concluded, he carries the whip, purse, &c. to the manor-house of Undon, a hamlet adjoining, where he leaves it. There is a new whip made every year; it is made at Broughton, and left at Undon. This tenure is not mentioned by Camden or Blunt. The lands which are held by it are situated in the parish of Broughton, near Brigg.

* A gad is an old Lincolnshire measure of ten feet, and the stock of the gad-whip is perhaps of the same length.

At Castle Hill many bodies have been dug up ; and some labourers digging materials for repairing the road, discovered a stone, about 18 inches broad and nine deep, on which was an imperfect inscription, which the late Mr. Bradley of Lincoln read thus....Cruci spoliā quod Egbert rex in honorem....; he supposes it a memorial of Egbert's victory over Wiglaf, king of Mercia, gained in the year 827, at or near this town, when he dedicated the spoils to some pious uses in the ancient church here, the present being made up of the fragments of an older one.

From this town there is a canal navigation to the river Ancholme, a distance of about nine miles.

About two miles to the south-east of Caistor is the village of THORESWAY, which in the 20th of Charles I. gave title of Baron to Sir John Colepeper, who had exposed himself for his sovereign in the battles of Edgehill, Newbury, &c. This title was borne by his two sons, but became extinct with the second in the year 1692.

Six miles to the north of Caistor, on the military way between the village of Croxton and Melton Wood, is BROUGH, a small Roman camp, single ditched, and the whole, including the ditch, not exceeding three acres. Its pristine state remains, except what the weather has worn away in length of time. The rampart at every corner is twice as high as on the sides ; which Stukely thinks might be in consequence of its being an exploratory camp.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about nine miles from Caistor, after passing through the villages of Caborn, Swallow, Irby, and Laceby, we arrive at GRIMSBY, a borough, market, and sea-port town, 170 miles from London, which formerly possessed a considerable share of foreign commerce, and was likewise distinguished for its internal trade, and in the reign of Edward

III. is said to have furnished 11 ships and 170 mariners, to assist at the siege of Calais.

This town is one of the most ancient boroughs in the kingdom, having had a mayor in the time of King John; and sent two members to parliament in the 23d of Edward I. which is the earliest period of cities and boroughs returning members to parliament, and has continued to do so ever since. The right of voting is in the resident free burgesses, paying scot and lot, who are about 200 in number. All the sons of freemen born in the town are entitled to their freedom, as is also every person marrying a freeman's daughter or widow. Persons are also entitled to vote by servitude and by redemption. The officers of the corporation are, a mayor and 11 aldermen, a recorder, a high steward, 12 common council men, two coroners, two bailiffs, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, and three serjeants at mace. Two of the aldermen are annually elected to be justices along with the mayor, who holds a court every Tuesday, and the bailiffs every Friday.

It was formerly a very large town, and defended by two block-houses, of which no traces remain; it had likewise a considerable trade, the harbour being then very commodious, but it afterwards became nearly choked up, the trade having forsaken it. Lately, however, the spirit of the place has revived; the harbour has been improved, and a dock constructed at a great expence, by which means the trade of the port has been increased, and the town extended by many additional buildings. It had formerly two churches, but that of St. Mary, which was a handsome structure, and its steeple a land-mark for mariners, has been long since taken down. St. James's Church is a spacious edifice, being for size equal to most cathedrals in the kingdom; it was originally, however, of greater extent, a part of the choir having fallen

down about the year 1600. The steeple, which appears to have suffered less from the depredations of time than the other parts of the church, is a beautiful specimen of English pointed architecture; but the alterations which this church has undergone at different periods, by no means correspond with the style of the original building. The large west window had figures of the kings of Judah, branching off from the stem of Jesse; and in the interior of the church are several ancient monuments and inscribed stones.

In the vicinity of this town are some of the extraordinary fountains, called Blow Wells, the water in which rises even with the surface of the ground, and sometimes overflows; they are vulgarly supposed to be unfathomable; but Mr. Young says, that Sir Joseph Banks found the bottom without difficulty. Some of them are embanked round for the security of cattle, but others are left open.

About three miles to the south-east of Grimsby is a little fishing hamlet, called CLEATHORPE, where there is a large and commodious hotel, erected of late years, with stables, and other conveniences. It stands on a little eminence, within 190 yards of the Humber, and commands a very extensive and beautiful prospect of the Yorkshire coast, &c. It is now become during the summer the resort of much genteel company, it being universally allowed to be the most eligible and agreeable bathing-place on the Lincolnshire coast.

About three miles to the south-west of Cleathorpe, is the neat and populous village of WALTHAM, situate on a healthy gravelly soil, descending on each side to a small serpentine brook, that in a winding course runs the whole length of the place. It derives its name from the Saxon *Weald* or *Walt*, which signifies a *wood* or *grove*, and *ham*, a *dwelling*; and indicates the land to be once woody, though little of that useful article is grown here

at present; the flat and low grounds, however, fully evince the conjecture, which about three feet below the surface is chiefly composed of roots, boughs, and rotten wood. The village has anciently given name to a family of Walthams, several of whom are interred in the church, under tomb-stones of black marble, with plates of brass affixed in them, and Latin inscriptions, importing that they were possessors of the village, the last of which family, Johanna Waltham, died in the year 1420. The church is a large and ancient stone edifice, of different kinds of pointed architecture, and appears to have been rebuilt at different periods of time; some vestiges of a rood-loft, and other Romish pageantry, are still visible in it.

The vicinity of this place is so well furnished with villages, that not less than 34 are contained in the circuit of six miles, though that compass is on one side intersected with the sea, which makes it very convenient for trade; and which, together with its central and pleasant situation, has induced most of its proprietors to inhabit their mansions, and invited some opulent traders to become inhabitants of the place. The part of the county adjoining the sea is famous for wool, corn, and good cattle. By the court-rolls of this manor, it appears that the tenure of lands here is by the ancient custom of Borough-English, and a considerable part of the manor is held by that claim at the present time.

About five miles to the east of Ravendale, at the village of HUMBERSTONE, there was an abbey of Benedictine monks, built in the time of Henry II.

At the distance of about three miles to the south of Humberstone, is TETNEY, a large village, 164 miles from London, where an annual fair for goods and merchandise is held, on the second Monday in July, old style. A large square old stone edifice, called the Tower, is yet remaining in the town,

with walls of prodigious strength and thickness; which is supposed by some to have been a cell belonging to the monastery of Humberstone.

The church of Tetney is large and spacious, and the steeple of excellent light gothic architecture and fine stone. In the north aisle, upon the wall, are some very ancient monumental inscriptions of Robert and William de Elkington, some part of which are obliterated, but are dated the beginning of the 13th century.

Journey from Saltfleet to Sleaford, through Horn-castle.

SALTFLEET, or Saltfleetby St. Peter's, is a small market town, on a creek of the German Sea.

On leaving this town, we proceed in a south-westerly direction; and at the distance of six miles, pass between the villages of Grimoldby and Manby, leaving the former to the right and the latter to the left. On the south is Castle Carleton, containing only a few wretched cottages of mud and straw, but which was once a populous market town; and in every part of it stone causeways, and the foundations of buildings are frequently discovered. It had a church and a chapel, and was invested with great privileges, by two charters, obtained from Henry the First. There are now in this village three artificial hills, called Castle Hills, which, together with the moat, occupy five acres of land. There is also an old rampart, about a mile long, 12 feet wide, and five high, which runs along the south and east sides of the town, like a fortification. This castle was originally the residence of the Lords Bardolph.

At the distance of five miles from Grimoldby, is **LOUTH**, 150 miles from London, formerly called Luda, from its situation on the Lud, a small rivulet formed by the confluence of two streams. It is

a large well-built town, and has been much improved.

The church of St. James is a large handsome structure, consisting of a nave, two aisles, and an elegant tower and spire at the west end: at the east end is a large central window, with two lateral windows opening into the aisles, which are separated by two well-proportioned buttresses, ornamented by canopied niches. The chancel, which has an altar-piece, containing a picture of the descent from the cross, painted by Williams, is of more modern date than the body of the church, and probably coeval with the justly admired steeple, which is the most elegant part of the building: the tower part consists of three stories, the second of which has two mullioned windows, with tracery in every front: in the third story are two more highly ornamented windows in each face. The angles of the tower are supported by buttresses, which contract as they advance in height, still preserving the finest proportion. Each stage terminates with elegant pediments, supported by ornamental corbels; thus diminishing to the top, where are octagonal embattled turrets, 30 feet high, whence issue four pinnacles, the angles of which are adorned with crockets, and end with finials: at the height of 80 feet from the base, round the exterior of the tower, runs a gallery, guarded by a parapet wall; and at the height of 170 feet the battlements commence, which are pierced with embrasures, and separated by the pedestals of three small pinnacles on each side. The height of the spire to the cross is 141 feet; and the total height of the whole is 288 feet.

Here was formerly another church, named St. Mary, but which is now totally demolished; the church-yard is, however, the present place of sepulture for the town; as that of St. James's has

not been used for that purpose for several years past.

Besides the church, there are three places of religious worship for dissenters from the establishment; one for catholics, one for baptists, and another for methodists.

Here is a free grammar school, and the trustees of the foundation incorporated by the name of "The Warden, and six Assistants, of the town of Louth, and free school of King Edward the Sixth in Louth." Besides another free school for a limited number of poor boys, founded in pursuance of the will of the late Dr. Mapletoft, dean of Ely, and bearing date the 17th of August, 1677.

The old town-hall, at the end of the principal street leading to the market-place, is taken down, and another fitted up at the end of a street, called the Butcher Market. The assembly-room, which is commonly called the mansion house, with a card-room annexed, forms a suite of elegant apartments, fitted up with considerable taste in the Grecian style.

In this town, on the south side of the church, is an hermitage, the production of the vicar's ingenuity, which deservedly claims the attention of the curious; it is constructed of local materials, chiefly collected out of the neighbouring fields and hedges, and appears as if it were formed rather by nature than art. The vicarage house is an old thatched building.

Louth is one of the gayest towns in Lincolnshire, in which there are frequent assemblies, concerts, &c. There is also a good suite of rooms, fitted up in a handsome manner, for a billiard room, a card room, and news room, which are one regular range of buildings. There is likewise a subscription library, and a literary society; the latter was established a few years back, and is very flourishing; there is also a national school on Bell's system.

From hence is a canal to the Humber at Tetney Lock. —The town is under the government of a warden and six assistants. The common seal, which is yet used by this corporate body, is a curious specimen of the uncouth ideas of the time. It exhibits a man, whipping the posteriors of a suppliant youth, while the other scholars are seen at their forms. The motto, “*Qvi parcit virge odit filiv.* 1552.” — “He that spareth the rod hateth his child.”

About one mile to the east of Louth, is the site of Louth Park Abbey, which was built by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1139.

To the east of the town is also a small but appropriate mausoleum, built by Thomas Espin, F. S. A. in a sequestered plantation, for his burying-place, and which Mr. E. permits all strangers to visit who apply for the key.

At the distance of about three miles from Louth, and one to the left of our road, on a hill, near the village of Tathwell, is a seat of the late Charles Chaplin, Esq. near which are six oblong barrows, lying in a line from east to west.

Proceeding southwards, after passing through the villages of Cawkwell and Ashby, at the distance of about fourteen miles, we enter HORNCastle, a large well-built market-town, about 136 miles from London, seated on the banks of the river Bane, and from thence called by the Romans Banovallum; its present name is derived from horn or hyrn, in Saxon signifying an angle or corner; and a castle or fortification, the wall of which is visible in many places; and the whole is supposed to have formerly occupied an area of nearly twenty acres: its form was that of a parallelogram, composed of two squares, and inclosed a great part of the present town.

Horncastle is a seigniority or soke of thirteen lordships, and was given by Richard the Second to the bishop of Carlisle, and his successors, for

his habitation and maintenance, when he was driven from his seat of Rose Castle by the Scots. Sir Joseph Banks is the present lessee, under the bishop of Carlisle. In these lordships, there are several chapels for the convenience of the inhabitants, who are at too great a distance from the mother-church.

The town is situated on a *lingula* or tongue of land, being almost surrounded by the river Bane and a small rivulet called the Waring, the former of which was made navigable from this town to the river Witham, below Tattershall, pursuant to an act passed for that purpose in the year 1792.

Here is a good grammar school, endowed by Lord Clinton and Saye; also a limited charity-school for poor children. A public dispensary was likewise founded here by subscription in the year 1789, which is under excellent management.

In Horncastle are two national schools, one on Bell's system, the other on Lancaster's.

Tanning is the principal branch carried on here, and has been much improved by the new canal.

At the distance of about two miles from Horncastle, and one to the left of our road, stands Scrivelsby-hall, anciently belonging to the Marmions, from whom by marriage it came through the Ludlows into the family of the Dymocks. This manor was held by barony and grand serjeantry, viz. that at the coronation, the then lord, or some person in his name, if he be not able, shall come "well-armed for war, upon a good war-horse, into the presence of our lord the king; and shall then and there cause it to be proclaimed, that if any one shall say, that our lord the king has no right to his crown and kingdom, he will be ready and prepared to defend, with his body, the right of the king and kingdom against him, and all others whatsoever." The house was a plain antique

edifice, and in the hall were the portraits of all the champions of England, and the kings, in whose reigns they lived, with three suits of armour; this part of the building having been burnt down some years back, has been recently rebuilt, in part, by the present Hon. — Dymock, who has fitted it up, in the old style, with great taste and elegance.

About three miles to the south-east of Scrivelsby is Revesby Abbey, the seat of Sir Joseph Banks. The house, which stands upon an elevated spot, was built by Craven Howard, son of the Earl of Berkshire, but since considerably enlarged by the family of Banks. Here was formerly an abbey of Cistercian monks. The abbot's lodge, which constituted part of an ancient mansion, now forms the offices belonging to the present house.

There is an encampment, near Revesby, having a broad foss, and inclosing an area of land, measuring about 300 feet from east to west, and 100 in breadth from north to south, and having at each end a large and lofty tumulus, of about 100 feet in diameter, of similar form and position, with a space of 100 feet between them.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about eight miles, after passing through the village of Haltham, we arrive at TATTERSHALL, a small market town, situated on the river Bane, near its junction with the Witham. This place was granted by William the Conqueror to Eudo, one of his Norman followers, a descendant of whom erected a stately castle here; they were barons of parliament, and from this place assumed the name of Tattershall.

Robert, the last Earl Tattershall, dying young, left three sisters his co-heirs, of which Joan marrying Sir Simon de Driby, the castle and estate came by marriage to the Cromwells, from whom it descended to the Clintons; but it is now the

property of Lord Fortescue. The castle, demolished in the Civil Wars, stood on a moorish level, surrounded by two great fosses, the outer one of earth, and the inner faced with brick ten feet deep, supplied with water from the Bane. The principal gateway was remaining till within these few years. The part at present left standing was built by Sir Ralph Cromwell, who was treasurer of the Exchequer, in the reign of King Henry VI. It consists of a square tower of brick, flanked by four octangular embattled turrets, which are crowned with spires, covered with lead. It is divided into four stories, and is upwards of 200 feet in height. The main walls, fifteen feet in thickness, were carried to the top of the fourth story, where a capacious machicolation enclosed the tower, on which there is a parapet wall of great thickness, with arches; upon which is a second platform and parapet, containing embrasures; and above, four spired turrets rise to a considerable height. The tower is built upon ponderous groined arches, which support the ground floor, in which is a large open fire-place, adorned with sculptured devices of the treasury bags, and shields of the Cromwells' arms, with the motto, "N'aime je droit." &c. On the second floor is another fire-place, with similar decorations. In the east wall there are some galleries, curiously arched, through which were communications to the principal apartments, from the grand stairs, which were situated in the south-east turret.

The Church, which stands on the east side of the outer moat, is a beautiful and spacious edifice, built in the form of a cross; consisting of a nave, a transept, and a magnificent choir: the latter of which has been totally neglected, since the fine painted windows were carried to the chapel of Burleigh, being a present from Lord Fortescue to the Earl of Exeter, who had promised to supply

their place with plain glass, for want of which and other necessary repairs, the inside has suffered greatly from the weather, though the walls, roof, and pavement, remain entire. The windows of the transepts and the body of the church were richly adorned with the legendary histories of St. Catherine, St. Guthlac, and other saints. "In one of the windows the Passion, in another hell torments, with divers creatures, bound together with a chain; among which was one with a crown, another with a mitre, and the devil tormenting them; and below, 'Sic affliguntur penis qui prava sequuntur.' The history of Hermogenes, who raised up the devils; and of St. Guthlac, the saint of the fens; and of Catherine who cast them into the sea, that Hermogenes and Philetus raised; and the history of Cosdre, with his decollation." Some beautiful fragments still remain in the windows of the transepts, while others have been blocked up. Before the altar were two rich brass figures of Ralph Lord Cromwell, who died in the year 1455, and of Margaret his wife, who died in 1453. The hospital, founded by Lord Ralph, still remains with a small endowment.

On leaving Tattershall, we proceed in a south-westerly direction, and, at the distance of four miles, we pass through the village of Billingham, about one mile to the west of which, at CATTELEY, are the ruins of a Gilbertine priory, founded by Peter de Bilengey, in the time of King Stephen, for nuns and brethren of the order of Sempringham.

At the distance of about three miles from Billingham, is the village of ANWICK.

About one mile to the south of the last-mentioned place is HAVERHOLM PRIORY, the seat of Sir Jenison William Jordan, Bart. The house and grounds occupy an area of about 300 acres, which constitute an island, formed by two branches of the

river Slea. Alexander bishop of Lincoln gave this manor to the Cistercian monks of Fountain's Abbey, in Yorkshire, about the year 1137, that they might build an abbey of that order; but after having made some progress in it, they pretended not to like the situation, and thereupon removed to Louth Park, upon which the bishop disposed of the island here to the nuns of the new and strict order of St. Gilbert of Sempringham, who settled here in the year 1139; and continued till the general dissolution, when their income was rated at 88*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* per annum.

Returning to our road, at the distance of three miles from Anwick, and twelve from Tattershall, we arrive at the town of Sleaford, which we have already described in a former part of the work.

Journey from Louth to Croyland; through Spalding.

On leaving Louth, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about five miles pass through the village of BURWELL, once a market-town. The church is a mean building, with a good tower. Here are no remains of the alien priory of Benedictine monks, which was given by some of the lords of Kyme, to the abbey of St. Mary Silvæ Majoris, near Bourdeaux, except some hills and moats.

About one mile to the east of the village, is BURWELL DEER PARK, the seat of Matthew Bancroft Lister, Esq. The house is delightfully situated in a well-wooded park, which contains about 300 acres, and is well stocked with deer; it is a handsome modern mansion, built about the year 1760, by the father of the present possessor. Sarah, the celebrated duchess of Marlborough, was born here.

At HAUGHAM, a village about a mile to the north

of the last-mentioned place, is a remarkable hill, called Skirbeck, out of the side of which a torrent of water occasionally rushes, sufficient to fill a tube of 30 inches in diameter. It continues to run for several weeks together, from a place where at other times there is not the smallest appearance of a spring. This sudden irruption is observed generally to happen after long and heavy rains.

At the distance of about nine miles from Burwell, after passing through the villages of Dalby and Partney, we arrive at SPILSBY, a market-town, 136 miles from London, situated on an eminence which overlooks to the south a large track of marsh and fen land, which is bounded by Boston Deeps, and the German Ocean. The town consists of four streets, uniting at the market-place, which forms a spacious square; at the east end of which is the market cross, consisting of a plain octagonal shaft, with a quadrangular base, terminated with a modern fane, the whole being elevated on five steps.

The Town-Hall, in which are held the general quarter sessions of the peace for the south division of the parts of Lindsey, is a plain brick building, erected in the year 1764, principally by subscription.

The Church, which is situated on the west side of the town, is an irregular building, and consists of north and south aisles; at the extremity of the body of the church is a chapel, probably the former chancel, in which are some ancient monuments, belonging to the families of Beke, Willoughby, and Bertie, who were successively interred here. In the chancel is a brass figure of a lady in a mantle, boddice, and mittens; a rich head dress, and two cushions under her head, with the following inscription:

“Hic jacet Margareta qui fuit uxor Roberti de
 Wylughby
 D’ni de Eresby que obiit XVII die mensis Octo-
 bris an’o d’ni
 Millmo ccc nonagesimo primo cui aie p’picetur
 Deus.”

At the west end of the church is a handsome embattled tower, of more modern date than the other parts of the structure, and supposed to have been erected about the time of Henry VII.

Here is a small free-school, the salary of the master arising from the rents of certain tenements bequeathed for that purpose.

About six miles to the north-east of Spilby, is ALFORD, a neat market-town, situated on a small brook that runs into the North Sea. It principally consists of one street, about a quarter of a mile in length. The church is an insignificant building, and the chancel long remained thatched. Here is a considerable free-school.

At the distance of about two miles to the north-west of Alford, are the ruins of Aby Abbey, built by Eudo de Greenesby, and Ralph de Abi, his son, for nuns of the Cistercian order, before the year 1153.

About one mile to the south-west of Alford, upon a heath, near the village of Well, are three curious Celtic barrows, contiguous to each other. Here is the seat of ——— Dashwood, Esq. Well Vale, running south-west, is truly charming. The hills on each side are clothed with large trees of various sorts, whose lofty tops and spreading branches over-shadow this enchanting place.

Fronting the house stands the chapel, which is built with great taste, and, nearly enclosed by trees, is a most picturesque object.

From the heights, through various openings of the woods, are extensive prospects over the levels of the lowlands and marshes to the sea.

Three miles to the north-east of Hagnaby, is the village of MAPLETHORPE, where there is a comfortable bathing house, which is much resorted to during the summer months, by the inhabitants of Louth and the neighbouring places.

Three miles to the west of Spilsby is BOLINGBROOKE, a small market-town, at the spring-head of a small river which falls into the Witham; it is remarkable for being the birth-place of Henry IV. thence named Henry of Bolingbroke. The church was formerly very large, but the greatest part was destroyed in the civil wars with Charles I. The remains of the castle, in which Henry the Fourth was born, fell a few years back.

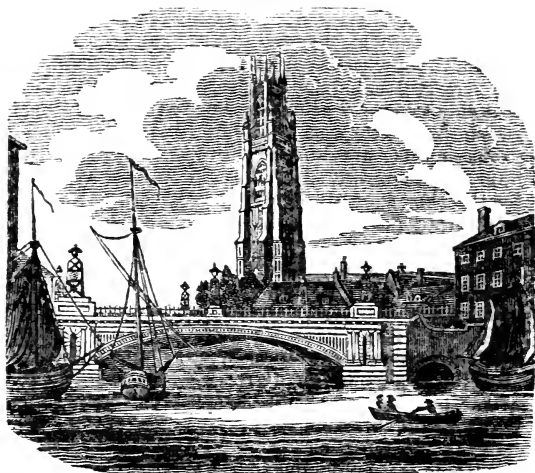
About three miles to the east of Spilsby, is BURGH, a small market-town, 132 miles from London, situated on a rising ground in a marsh near the sea. According to Dr. Stukeley, here was formerly "a Roman castrum to guard the sea-coasts, probably against the Saxon rovers. It is a piece of very high ground, partly natural, partly raised by Roman labour, overlooking the wide-extended marshes, perhaps in those times covered with salt water, at least in spring tides. There are two artificial tumuli, one very high, called Cock-hill. In St. Mary's church-yard, now demolished, Roman coins have been found." In this town were formerly two churches, St. Mary's and St. Peter's; the latter only remains; in which was a chantry, founded by John Holden. This church consists of a nave, north and south aisles, with a fine embattled tower; the angles of which are supported by double buttresses. Here are some fine springs of water, and a plentiful supply of coals from Sunderland to Skegness, and from thence by land carriage.

SKEGNESS, a small village, about two miles to the east of Burgh, is of considerable note, on account of the fine shore and eligible accommodations for bathing.

About three miles to the south of Skegness is WAINFLEET, a market-town, situated in a marsh, on a small creek, through which the river Limb flows into the Boston Deep. There is a road across the Fens still called Salter's Road, and which Dr. Stukeley says, was probably the Roman road between Banovallum and Lindum. It is not improbable that, previous to the decay of the harbour, the town was situated higher up the creek; for the church of All Saints stands at a place called High Wainfleet; it is a handsome structure, and has a brick tower of modern date, but is going fast to decay. In the south aisle is an alabaster monument, erected by William Putin, alias Wainfleet, bishop of Winchester, to the memory of his father.

Here is a free school, founded in the year 1459, by the above pious bishop, who was born here.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of one mile and a half, to the south of Spilsby, we pass through the village of East Keal; about two miles to the south-west of which at Hagnaby is a handsome seat belonging to T. Coltman, Esq.



About fifteen miles to the south of East Keal, after passing through the villages of Stickford, Stickney, and Sibsey, we arrive at Boston, 116 miles from London, a considerable market-town, situated on both sides of the river Witham, and being not far from its influx into the sea, enjoys a good trade; its harbour can admit vessels of an inferior burthen only. It has likewise a navigation from Lincoln, partly by the Witham and partly by a canal. Its name is an abbreviation of Botolph's town, from Botolph, a Saxon, who had a monastery here, and is supposed to have been its founder. It had formerly, besides St. Botolph's monastery, a priory, four friaries, and three colleges, whose lands Henry the Eighth gave to the town. It had likewise two churches, St. John's and St. Botolph's; the former of which has long since gone to decay,

and not the least remains of it are now visible; the church-yard is however used as a burying-ground.

St. Botolph's Church is a handsome structure of the ornamented, pointed architecture, and is reckoned the largest parochial church without cross aisles in the universe, being 300 feet long within the walls, and 100 feet wide. It is ceiled with English oak, supported by tall slender pillars: it has 365 steps, 52 windows, and 12 pillars, answerable to the days, weeks, and months of the year. Its tower is the highest in Britain, which was begun to be built in the year 1309; and is 282 feet in height, with a beautiful octagon lantern on the top, which is a guide to mariners, as they enter the dangerous channels of Lynn Deep and Boston Deep; and may be seen 40 miles round the country. The architecture of the whole is light, yet magnificent. The interior is furnished with a good organ, a clock with chimes, and eight bells.

The Market-Place is spacious; and is ornamented by a handsome market cross, in which is a good chamber appropriated to the purposes of corporation meetings, card assemblies, &c. Here is also a handsome Theatre, with generally a good company of actors.

Among the charitable foundations of this town, is a free grammar school, two charity schools, a general dispensary, and two national schools on Bell and Lancaster's plan.

Several improvements have lately been made in this town, by taking down old buildings, and erecting new ones; but the greatest is that of deepening the channel of the river, and enlarging the harbour, which have been effected from the designs of the scientific engineer, Mr. Rennie; part of the plan, which has been put in execution, is the erection of an iron bridge, consisting of a single arch, the small segment of a large circle, 86 feet in the span; and

the breadth, including the cornice on each side, is 39 feet. The expence of erecting this bridge was defrayed by the corporation, and which, including the purchase-money of buildings, &c. amounted to nearly 22,000*l*.

In the year 1772 the corporation built a fish-market, by which the town is well supplied both with sea and river fish.

This town was first incorporated by Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth gave the corporation a court of admiralty over all the neighbouring sea-coasts. It consists of a mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, and 18 common-council, with a judge-advocate, town-clerk, &c.

The neighbouring fens are in some places 50, and in others 30 miles broad. The number of water-fowl, particularly the duck, mallard, teal, and wid-geon, which were formerly taken in these fens, previous to the enclosures, is incredible; there are, however, great quantities still taken, by means of decoys, which are very large ponds, dug in the fens, with four or five creeks, running from them, to a great length, and each growing gradually narrower till it comes to a point. The banks are well planted with willows, sallows, osiers, and the like kinds of underwood. Into these ponds the fowls are enticed by ducks bred up tame, for the purpose; for the decoy ducks being fed constantly at certain places, become at length so familiar as to feed out of the hand; and as they are not confined, they fly abroad, and return, at pleasure. During the proper season of the year they take frequent flights, and sometimes, after being gone several weeks, return home with numerous flocks of fowl. As soon as the decoy-man perceives the flocks settled in the pond. he goes down secretly to the angles of it, under the cover of hedges made with reeds, and then throws a quantity of corn into such shallow places as the decoy-ducks are accustomed

to, and to which they immediately resort, followed by the strangers. Thus they are for several days entertained without any disturbance, the bait being sometimes thrown into one place, and sometimes into another, till they are insensibly led into the narrow canals of the pond, where the trees on each side hang overhead like an arbour, though at a considerable height from the water. Here the houghs are conducted with such art, that a large net is spread near the tops of the trees, and fastened to hoops, which reach from side to side, though the passage is so wide and lofty, that the fowls do not perceive the net above them. In the meantime the decoy-man going forward, behind the reeds, throws corn into the water, which the decoy-ducks greedily fall on, and encourage their visitors, till by degrees they are all got under the sweep of the net, which imperceptibly grows narrower, till it ends in a point, like a purse, perhaps two or three hundred yards from the entrance. When the decoy-man perceives that they are all within the net, a dog, who is perfectly taught his business, rushes from behind the reeds into the water, swimming directly after the fowl, and barking at them. Immediately they take wing, but being beat down, naturally swim forward to avoid the dog, till they are at length hurried into the purse, where they fall a prey to the decoy-man, who there waits to receive them. All this is done with so little disturbance, that the wild ducks left in the great pond take no notice of it; so that a single decoy-man, having seized all the fowl in one of these creeks or canals, goes round to execute the same business at the rest, always taking care to distinguish the decoy-ducks, and set them at liberty. By these means incredible numbers of wild fowl are taken every week, during the season, most of which are sent up to London. Ten decoys, it is said, during one winter, furnished the enormous number of 31,200.

Many of these fens serve for little other purpose than the breeding and rearing of geese, which are considered the fenman's treasure. During the breeding season these birds are lodged in the same houses with the inhabitants, and even in their very bed-chambers; in every apartment are three rows of coarse wicker pens, placed one above another; each bird having its separate lodge, divided from the other, which it keeps possession of during the time of sitting. A gozzard, or gooseherd, attends the flock, and twice a day drives the whole to water, then brings them back to their habitation, helping those that live in the upper stories to their nests, without ever misplacing a single bird.

The geese are in general plucked five times a year, though some people pluck them three times, and others four. Even the goslings are not spared, as it is considered that early plucking tends to increase their succeeding feathers. Mr. Young says, "the feathers of a dead goose are worth sixpence, three giving a pound; but plucking alive does not yield more than three-pence a head per annum. Some wing them only once a quarter, taking ten feathers from each goose, which sell at 5s. a thousand."

"The common mode of plucking geese, (says a modern writer) is considered a barbarous custom; but it has prevailed, perhaps, ever since feather-beds came into general use. The mere plucking is said to hurt the fowl but little, as the owners are careful not to pull until the feathers are *ripe*, that is, not till they are just ready to fall; because, if forced from the skin before, which is known by blood appearing at the roots, they are of very inferior value; those plucked after the geese are dead are not so valuable."

About six miles to the west of Boston is SWINES-HEAD, a small market-town, 120 miles from London, famous for having been the first resting-place

of King John, after having lost all his baggage, and narrowly escaping with his life, when passing Cross Keys Wash, in his military progress from Lynn to Sleaford, the castle of which latter place was then in his possession.

The church is a handsome spacious structure, with a lofty chancel. Here was formerly an abbey of Cistertian monks, but there are no vestiges left, except a mansion, which was erected out of the ruins by one of the family of Locton.

Here it is necessary to describe the Cross Keys and Foss Dyke Washes. The first is a large estuary, under water, when the tide is in, and passable for travellers from the Wash House, in Lincolnshire, to the Cross Keys House, in Norfolk, when the tide is out; but the passage is extremely dangerous without a guide. They are of course both fordable at the state in which the tides are represented in the annexed table. The Cross Keys Wash is the nearest road from Lynn Regis to Holbeach, as the other is from Holbeach to Boston.

A Table for passing over the Washes, according to the Moon's Age or full Sea.

<i>Moon's Age.</i>	<i>Full Sea.</i>	<i>Foss Dyke Wash may be passed either Morning or Afternoon, between the Hours here specified.</i>			<i>Cross Keys Wash may be passed either Morning or Afternoon, between the Hours here specified.</i>		
	<i>H. M.</i>	<i>H. M.</i>	<i>H. M.</i>	<i>H. M.</i>	<i>H. M.</i>	<i>H. M.</i>	
1st or 16th	7 0	10 0	and	4 45	10 30	and	3 35
2 — 17	7 0	10 48	—	5 33	11 18	—	4 23
3 — 18	7 48	11 36	—	6 21	12 6	—	5 11
4 — 19	8 36	12 24	—	7 9	12 54	—	5 59
5 — 20	9 24	1 12	—	7 57	1 42	—	6 47
6 — 21	10 12	2 0	—	8 45	2 30	—	7 35
7 — 22	11 0	2 48	—	9 33	3 18	—	8 23
8 — 23	12 36	3 36	—	10 21	4 6	—	9 11
9 — 24	1 24	4 24	—	11 9	4 54	—	9 59
10 — 25	2 12	5 12	—	11 57	5 42	—	10 47
11 — 26	3 0	6 0	—	12 45	6 30	—	11 35
12 — 27	3 48	6 48	—	1 33	7 18	—	12 23
13 — 28	4 36	7 36	—	2 21	8 6	—	1 11
14 — 29	5 24	8 24	—	3 9	8 54	—	1 59
15 — 30	6 12	9 12	—	3 57	9 42	—	2 47

Two miles to the south of Swineshead is DONNINGTON, a small market-town, situated in the fens, through which a firm rampart of earth, of considerable breadth, has been constructed, which forms a convenient road to Sempringham; it has likewise a port for barges, which convey goods to Boston. Here is a good free-school, and the town is noted for the sale of hemp and hemp-seed. Several Roman coins have been found here; and

on the lower part of the steeple of the church is a stone, with the remains of a Roman inscription, but which is unintelligible.

Returning from this digression, on leaving Boston, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about four miles, pass through the village of KIRTON, in Holland. Its church was formerly collegiate, and is said to have been built by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln. Being found much dilapidated and decayed, the chancel, tower, and transepts, were taken down in the year 1805, and the stones marked and numbered, and the whole have been employed in re-erecting a new tower at the western end of the church.

Eleven miles from Kirton, after passing through the villages of Sotherby, Surfleet, and Pinchbeck, we arrive at SPALDING, an ancient and considerable market town, seated near the mouth of the river Welland. From its neatness, and from the canals in the streets, it has not inappropriately been compared to a Dutch town. Here are some small remains of a monastery, &c.

A court-leet and court-baron are held at this town in the spring and autumn of every year.

The church is an ancient light structure, built in the year 1284; its beautiful porch, however, appears to have been added about the end of the fifteenth century.

The river Welland is navigable through the town, and has a bridge over it with a small port, to which vessels of fifty or sixty tons may come up. It has a free grammar-school for the natives, and a charity-school. Some alms-houses have likewise lately been rebuilt.

About seven miles to the east of Spalding is HOLBEACH, a market town. It is a place of great antiquity, as appears from the remains of walls and pavements that have been dug up, together with urns and coins. The church is a noble pointed

structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, aisles, porch and square tower, surmounted with an octangular ornamental spire; each angle being charged with crockets, and each face having two windows, with canopies, &c. The north porch is somewhat curious, having two circular towers, with embattled parapets, at its extreme angles. Within the church are some fine monuments to the memory of the Irby family, and to the Littleburys, who formerly resided in this neighbourhood. A free grammar-school was likewise founded here in the time of Edward III. who granted lands for its support; and about the year 1669, another free-school was established here by George Farmer, Esq. the revenues of which have been greatly increased by subsequent donations and bequests.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about seven miles from Spalding, is CROYLAND, formerly a market town of great antiquity. The town consists of four streets, which, being separated by water-courses, are connected by means of a curious triangular bridge, formed of three segments of a circle, meeting in a point at the top, but so steep that only foot-passengers can pass over; horses and carriages go underneath. On the south-west wing, which faces the London-road, is an image of King Ethelbald, in a sitting posture, having a crown fluery on the head, and a globe in the right hand.

CROYLAND BRIDGE.



Croyland is also famous for its abbey, founded by Ethelbald, about the year 716, and dedicated to St. Guthlac, and St. Bartholomew; the former a pious man, who lived here as a hermit. In the year 870, the Danes burned the monastery, and murdered the religious: it was, however, refounded in the year 948 by King Edred, but was afterwards destroyed by fire in the year 1091. It was rebuilt in the year 1112 by liberal contributions, and burnt and rebuilt again between the years 1142 and 1170. About the year 1720, the roof of the abbey church fell in, and was found to consist of Irish oak, finely carved and gilt; pieces of which are to be found in almost every house in Croyland. The venerable remains of this once celebrated abbey are extremely magnificent, and consist chiefly

of a portion of the conventual church, which is highly interesting to the architect and antiquary. The choir, central tower, transepts, and the whole of the east end are down; what portions are found standing are the skeletons of the nave, with parts of the south and north aisles; the latter of which is covered over, pewed, and fitted up as the parish church. This edifice was made a garrison during the Civil Wars; over the west gate are images of several kings and abbots; and among the rest, of St. Guthlac, with a whip and knife, his usual symbols, and St. Bartholomew with a knife; the former was buried at Anchor Church House, or Anchorage House, where he lived; this building consisted of two rooms below, and two above; of which the site only remains at present, the building having been pulled down about the year 1720.

At Croyland are some wonderful engines for throwing up water, one of which throws up 1200 tons of water in half an hour, and goes by 12 wind sails.

Some writers, particularly Dr. Stukeley, have supposed that the Romans had a settlement here, from the various antient remains of that people, which have been discovered in the vicinity; but this is not very probable. The situation was not adapted for a military station, nor would it be selected for a villa. Early in the Anglo-Saxon dynasty it was, however, occupied; and we are informed that Ethelbald, King of Mercia, founded a monastery here, and dedicated it "to the honour of St. Mary, St. Bartholomew, and St. Guthlac*." The history

* This Saint was the son of a Mercian nobleman, named *Perwald*, and his mother's name was *Tetha*. At an early period of life he distinguished himself in the army; but having completed his twenty-fourth year, he renounced the world, and became a monk under the Abbess *Elfrida*, in the monastery of

CROYLAND ABBEY.

of Croyland is involved in that of its monastery, which constitutes the chief and almost only prominent artificial object of interest or curiosity. It appears from the charter of Ethelbald, that the lands belonging to the abbey comprehended "the whole island of Croyland, formed by the four waters of *Shepishce* on the east, *Nene* on the west, *Southee* on the south, and *Asendyk* on the north; in length four leagues, in breadth three, with the marshes adjoining on both sides the Weland, part of which to the north, called *Goggisland*, is two leagues long from Croyland bridge to *Aspath*, and one league broad from the Weland south to *Apenhall*, and another part of the marsh south of the Weland, two leagues long, from Croyland bridge to South-lake; and two leagues broad from the Weland to Fynset, with fishery in the waters of Nene and Weland." The charter is dated A. D. 716, and witnessed by Brithwald, Archbishop of Canterbury; Winfred, Archbishop of the Mercians; Ingwald, Bishop of London; Aldwin, Bishop of Litchfield; Tobias, Bishop of Rochester; Ethelred, Abbot of Bardney; Egbert, Abbot of Medeshamsted; Egga, Earl of Lincoln; Lurie, Earl of Leicester, &c. The monarch further gave towards the building of the monastery, 300 pounds in silver, and 100 pounds a-year for ten years to come; he also authorized the monks to build, or enclose a town for their own use, with a right of common for themselves and their servants.

Repton. "By divine guidance he came in a boat to one of those solitary desert islands, called *Cru-lande*, on St. Bartholomew's day; and in an hollow, on the side of an heap of turf, built himself a hut in the days of Conrad, King of Mercia, when the Britons gave their inveterate enemies, the Saxons, all the trouble they could." *Gough's Hist. and Antiq. of Croyland.*

*Journey from Coltersworth to the Green Man Inn;
through Ancaster.*

COLTERSWORTH, a village, pleasantly situated, by the side of the river Witham, which, meandering through a delightful valley, divides it from the hamlet of Wolsthorpe, is noted for being the birth-place of Sir Isaac Newton.

On leaving Coltersworth, we proceed in a northerly direction, and at the distance of one mile, and on the right of our road, is Easton, the seat of M. Cholmeley, Esq. About eight miles beyond which, after passing through the villages of Woodnack and Cold Harbour, is the village of Londonthorpe, one mile to the left of which is Belton House, the residence of Lord Brownlow. The present mansion was built about the year 1686, from designs, it is conjectured, of Sir Christopher Wren; it is of stone, and being built in the form of the letter H, presents four uniform elevations, without any architectural decorations: the apartments are numerous, lofty, and well-proportioned, and ornamented with excellent carving by Gibbons, and the chapel is wainscotted with cedar.

At the distance of four miles from Londonthorpe, is the village of ANCASTER, supposed to have been an ancient Roman village, called Crocolana, on a Roman highway, under a hill, which abounds with remnants of antiquity. Horseley affirms, that it was called Causennæ, which has, however, been contradicted. At the south end of the village are the remains of a castle, encompassed by a ditch and rampart. The present village consists chiefly of one street, leading from north to south; it is divided into two lordships, the east side, whereon the castle stood, being in the township of Wilsford, and the west side, the township of Ancaster, whereon stands the church, a neat building with a lofty spire, and dedicated to St. Martin. In the

church-yard are the figures of two priests cut in stone.

At the distance of about 11 miles from Ancaster, after passing through the hamlet of Baynard's Leap, we arrive at the Green Man Inn.

*Journey from Coltersworth to Long Bennington;
through Grantham.*

About two miles to the north of Coltersworth, and one to the left of our road, at the village of Stoke Rochford, is Stoke House, the residence of Edmund Turner, Esq. The present house was built in the year 1794, out of the materials of an old mansion house, erected about the middle of the 17th century. In the park is a pleasing small cascade, formed by the water of a single spring, which discharges 19 tons in a minute.

In the village of Stoke Rochford is a handsome stone building, containing six sets of apartments, for six poor persons, who have a weekly allowance of money, and an annual allowance for coals; it was erected and endowed in the year 1677, by Sir Edmund Turner, who was knighted in the year 1663, for his loyalty and services to Charles the First.

Returning to our road, at the distance of eight miles from Coltersworth is GRANTHAM, a borough and market town situated on the side of the river Witham, on the ancient Roman road, called Ermine Street, and appears to have been a strong Roman station.

The church is a very elegant stone structure, with one of the loftiest stone spires in the kingdom, being 82 yards high; but the tower is much disfigured, the staircase, which stands in one corner, being an octagonal projection on the outside; and there are no projections on the other three corners to answer it. This beautiful spire was materially injured by the storm of the 30th of July 1797; the

lightning appears to have run down the crockets, many of which were broken off, and two of them fell through the roof into the body of the church. The interior is very handsome, and contains a fine-toned organ, with a double front, and ten good musical bells. In this church is a beautiful monument to the memory of Sir Dudley Rider, lord chief justice of the King's Bench, who died in the year 1756. The font, which is very ancient, is adorned with scripture history in relief. The charnel-house, which is a large ornamented building, is remarkable for the number of its skulls (near 1500) which are placed in rows one above another, and bleached white by the air.

On a part of the town called Peter Church Hill, was formerly a church dedicated to St. Peter, but now demolished; as also a cross, erected by King Edward I. to the memory of Queen Eleanor.

Here are two good Charity Schools, one of which was founded by Bishop Fox, who was born near this town; and here Sir Isaac Newton received the first rudiments of his education.

Though this town can boast of no particular manufacture, it has a large market on Saturday for corn and all kinds of provision. And on the neighbouring course are frequently horse races.

A navigable canal passes from this town to Nottingham, where it joins the Trent, and thence runs to Cromford in Derbyshire.

Without Spittlegate, at what is termed Grantham Spa, a salutary spring rises out of sandy ground, the water of which is a mild chalybeate, specifically lighter than common spring water, and containing a small portion of ærated iron.

About eight miles to the north of Grantham, after passing through the villages of Gunnerby and Foston, is LONG BENNINGTON.

*Journey from Lough to Gainsborough, through
Market Rasen.*

Every thing deserving notice in this journey, previous to our arrival at Gainsborough, having already been described in the former parts of this work, we must refer our readers to the Itinerary for the names of the villages through which we pass, and proceed with a description of

GAINSBOROUGH, 150 miles from London, a considerable market town, situated on the eastern bank of the river Trent, over which it has a handsome stone bridge, completed in the year 1791. The town consists principally of one large street, parallel with the river, which is navigable to this place for vessels of 150 tons burthen.

The church is a neat modern structure; the pulpit cloth and cushions of which are of crimson and brocade velvet, trimmed with gold; the materials of which they are made were taken at the battle of Dettingen, in the year 1743. There are also several meeting-houses of various denominations, and several good charity schools.

Of the church at Gainsborough, it is necessary to observe, that it is a neat modern structure, of that motley architecture which is the disgrace of the present enlightened æra. Such incongruous edifices are a burlesque upon improvement, and a stigma on the national taste. In a more appropriate style is the fine stone bridge, of three elliptical arches, over the Trent, completed in 1791. It is private property; and even foot passengers are subject to a toll. The elevated road towards Bawtry was formed at the same time. In digging to lay the foundation of the western butment of the bridge, an ancient dagger was found, supposed to be of Danish fabrication. The *town-hall*, in the market-place, is occasionally used as an assembly

room. It is a brick building, under which are shops, and a dismal place called the gaol. The sessions for this part of the county were formerly held here; but for some years past have been removed to Ritson. *The old hall*, commonly called the *palace*, is a singular edifice. It is constructed principally of oak timber framing, and forms three sides of a quadrangle, open to the south. The western exterior consists of a stack of large chimnies, built of brick. At the north-east corner is an embattled tower, having small windows, coped with stone, the arches of which are of the flat pointed style. Hence to the southern extremity of the eastern end, the facing is brick, with stone-coped windows. In the lower story of this wing is a large room, till lately used as a ball-room. On the northern side is a small handsome building, formerly the chapel. The staircase, made of oak, was very spacious; and a few years ago this, with the kitchen, and two immense fire-places, remained entire. In the arches, within the hall, are niches, with figures of kings, warriors, &c. The highest tower is twenty-six yards in height; and the whole building was about six hundred feet square. It was once moated round, part of which is still visible, and had large gardens and fish-ponds. At the south end of the eastern wing is a sun dial, bearing the date 1600; whence a conjecture has been formed, that it was erected about that time; but the building is evidently much older, though probably of a later period than the time of John of Gaunt, whose palace it is said to have been. It is now converted into apartments for families. In 1742 it was inhabited by Sir Neville Hickman, Bart. and is now the property of his descendant, Miss Hickman, of Thonock Grove.

Gainsborough is famous in history, as being the anchoring place of the Danish ships, when the sanguinary tyrant *Sweyne* ravaged and laid waste

many parts of the country. Returning from his horrid expedition, Matthew of Westminster informs us, that he was here stabbed by an unknown hand, and thus received the punishment due to his crimes. On the south part of the town was an old chapel of stone, in the time of Leland, in which, tradition says, many Danes were buried. Some ages afterwards, Gainsborough formed part of the possessions of William de Valence, who obtained for it the privilege of a fair in the time of Edward the First. The barons of Burgh, who formerly resided here, were descended from this nobleman, by the Scotch Earls of Athol, and the Percys, Earls of Northumberland.

Of this family, Thomas, Lord Burgh, grandson of Thomas, who was created Lord Burgh by King Henry the Eighth, was born here. He lived in the time of Queen Elizabeth, by whom he was appointed to the highest trusts, and distinguished himself both in a diplomatic and military capacity. This town was also the birth-place of WILLIAM DE GAINSBOROUGH, who was bred a Franciscan in Oxford, became an ambassador to King Edward the First; and, for his zealous defence of the Pope's infallibility was, by Boniface the Eighth, preferred to the see of Worcester, where he died A. D. 1308. The learned and pious *Simon Patrick*, Bishop of Ely, was born here in 1626, and died in 1707.

The town has a good market on Tuesdays, and gives title of *Earl* to the noble family of *Noel*.

Half a mile to the north of this place, on a ridge that runs along the eastern bank of the Trent, are some embankments called the "CASTLE HILLS." The central encampment contains an area one hundred and seventy yards in circumference, surrounded by a double foss and vallum. These are higher and deeper towards the south-west than on the south-east, where the descent is immediate to the plain. On the south side of this circular work,

and adjoining it, is another enclosed area, of an oblong shape, and surrounded, except the side towards the central camp, by a high raised mound, without a foss. The length from east to west is one hundred and fifty yards, and breadth from north to south fifty. On the northern side is another oblong enclosure, extending eighty yards, but the mound less perfect, and the site lower than the one to the south. The circular part appears to have been a Roman work, and the additions are probably Danish. Near this are several subordinate works; and along the ridge, to the southward, are various enclosed areas, both circular and oblong, of great dimensions; and many remains of antiquity have, at different times, been found in digging.

This station appears to have been occupied by the contending parties during the civil wars. Rushworth says, that near Gainsborough, Cromwell defeated General Cavendish, who was slain in a quagmire, by Cromwell's lieutenant, in 1643. The Lord Willoughby had before taken this town, and made the Earl of Kingston prisoner. The Earl being sent to Hull, was shot, in mistake, by the royalists, in his passage over the Humber.

At HEYNINGS, two miles from Gainsborough, was a *Cistertian nunnery*, founded by Reyner Evermue about the year 1180. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had a prioress and twelve nuns; valued at the dissolution, according to Speed, at 58l. 13s. 4d. when the site was granted to Sir Thomas Henneage. Gough, by mistake, states its revenues at 495l.

The river island of *Axholme* contains eight parishes, which are subdivided into thirteen constableries. The chief, or principal of these is *Epworth*, the manor of which, held by lease under the crown, includes the parishes of *Epworth*, *Haxey*,

Owston, and Belton, also the townships of Diddithorpe and Althorpe.

HAXEY, whence the river island of Axholme derives its name, Camden says, "was anciently called *Axel*. But it hardly deserves the name of a town, it is so thinly inhabited." By the returns of the population made to parliament in 1801, it appears that the place then consisted of 323 houses, and contained 1541 inhabitants. Here is the site of a castle which once belonged to the *Mowbrays*, formerly lords of this neighbourhood, but the building was demolished in the baronial wars. In the year 1173, according to Matthew Paris, Roger de Mowbray, renouncing his allegiance to the old king, repaired a castle at Kinnard Ferry, in the isle of Axholme, which had been destroyed of old. A body of Lincolnshire men crossed over in boats, and laid siege to the castle; forced the constable and all his men to surrender, and rased the castle. Leland says, "there was a castle at the south side of the chirch garth of *Oxtun*, whereof no peace now standith; the dike and the hill wher the *arx* stoode yet be seene; it was sumtyme caullid *Kinard*."

Near Milwood Park, formerly a seat of the *Mowbrays*, stood, according to Leland, a "fair Carthusian monastery," in the church of which was buried John Mowbray, second Duke of Norfolk, and grandson of the first, who died in the eleventh year of Henry the Sixth. It was founded about the nineteenth year of Richard the Second, by Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and Earl Marshal of England, who was afterwards Duke of Norfolk. The yearly revenues of this priory at the dissolution were, according to Dugdale, 237l. 15s. 2d. The site of it was granted, in the thirty-second of Henry the Eighth, to Mr. John Candish, who, Leland observes, in his time had turned "the monasterie to a goodly manor place." It went by the

name of "*the Priory in the Wood*;" or, "the house of the visitation of the Blessed Virgin, near Epworth, in the isle of Axholm."

Gainsborough, as a port, carries on a considerable trade in corn and other commodities to and from the coast, and also participates with Hull, during the peaceable times, in the trade to the Baltic.

A great quantity of hemp and flax is grown in this part of the county, and the poor are chiefly employed in it. Quantities of large oaks, with acorns, &c. and other kinds of trees, some of which appear to have been burnt, and others cut down, are frequently found at the depth of three feet beneath the surface, in this neighbourhood. In the Gentleman's Magazine for May 1749, it is stated, "that at Crowle, on the river Dune, was found the body of a woman standing upright in a peat moss, and two antient shoes."

At Hirst, there was formerly a cell of Black Canons of St. Austin, annexed to Nostell Abbey in Yorkshire.

At Aukborough, Dr. Stukeley places the *Aquis of Ravennas*, having discovered a Roman Castrum and a vicinal road. "The Roman castle," he says, "is square, 300 feet each side, the entrance north; the west side is objected to the steep cliff hanging over the Trent, which here falls into the Humber; for this castle was very conveniently placed in the north-west angle of Lincolnshire, as a watch tower over Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire." This camp was afterwards called *Countess Close*, from a Countess of Warwick, who is said to have lived here; but there are no remains of any such building. The vallum and ditch of this camp are very perfect. Before the north entrance is a square plot called *the Green*. The round works, or Julian bowers, resembling a labyrinth, are generally discovered near Roman towns. Boys often divert

themselves by running through these various windings and turnings. Doctor Stukeley thinks this was one of the old Roman games brought into Italy from Troy; and that it took its name not from *bower*, an harbour, but from *borough*, any work consisting of ramparts of earth. According to the fifth Eneid of Virgil, Iulus, the son of Eneas, introduced it into Italy; and the intent of its adoption was to exercise the Roman youth in military activity.

Five miles to the south-east of this town are the vestiges of the city of Sidnacester, the see of Eadulphus and eight other bishops, in the seventh or eighth century, before it was joined to Dorchester and Lincoln. The theatre at Gainsborough, for its size, is as handsome as any in England.

About ten miles north of Gainsborough is Epworth, the principal place in the isle of Axholme. The manufacture of sacking and bagging is the chief employ of the inhabitants of this town.

Since the commons in the isle of Axholme have been enclosed, Mr. Peck observes, "little alteration has been made with respect to the domestic habits of the people; money is in greater abundance, and they possess more land. Where, in consequence of open fields, an opportunity of purchasing a small portion of land presents itself, a spirit of emulation is caused even among the day-labourers, who, in the room of spending their hard-earned wages, lay them by till they can purchase one or two roods of land; this furnishes them with potatoes or bread corn; and as their incomes increase, their abilities and inclinations to purchase land increase likewise."

CEREMONY OF RIDING THE STANGE.

This is still practised in the isle of Axholme, being a mode of exposing a man who has beaten his wife, by placing him across a pole, &c. The actors in this procession procure old kettles, pans,

and horns, with which they make a most hideous noise, preceding the person who is carried. They then proceed to the house of the offender, and the man who rides the *stange*, after silence is called, repeats the following doggrel:

With a ran a dan dan, at the sign of the old tin can,
For neither your case nor mine do I ride the stange;
Soft Billy Charcoal has been banging his wife, Ann;
He bang'd her, he bang'd her, he bang'd her indeed,
He bang'd her, poor creature, before she stood
need, &c.

The conclusion is too indelicate for public notice. They afterwards proceed round the town, reciting this doggrel at the corners of the streets. This ceremony is sometimes repeated three successive days.

At Epworth and Haxey Old Twelfth Day is devoted to "throwing the hood," according to tradition, instituted by one of the Mowbrays. A roll of canvas, tightly corded together, from four to six pounds in weight, is taken to an open field, and contended for by the rustics. An individual appointed casts it from him, and the first person that can convey it into the cellar of any public-house receives the reward of one shilling, paid by the plough bullocks, or *boggins*. A new hood being furnished when the others are carried off, the contest usually continues till dark.

The next day the plough bullocks, or *boggins*, go round the town collecting alms and crying *largess*. They are dressed like morris-dancers, are yoked to, and drag a small plough. They have their farmer, and a fool called *Billy Buck*, dressed like a harlequin, with whom the boys make sport. The day is concluded by the bullocks running with the plough round the cross in the market-place, and the man that can throw the others down, and convey the plough into the

cellar of a public-house, receives one shilling for his agility.

*Journey from Crowle to Great Grimsby; through
Burton-upon-Strather and Barton.*

CROWLE is a small market-town, situated in the Isle of Axholme. It has a good church and a charity-school.

On leaving Crowle we proceed in a north-easterly direction; and, at the distance of about eight miles, after passing through the villages of Eastoff, Luddington, and Gorthorpe, arrive at Burton, commonly called Burton-on-Strather, a small market-town. Out of about fifty houses here, not more than about twelve or fourteen are built with brick. This town is now considered as a magazine, to which supplies can be had by the regular conveyance of the steam-boats that daily pass the shore from Hull to Gainsborough.

It is said that the land-holders about Burton have been in the practice of allowing a cow to each poor peasant, with land sufficient for its maintenance, and that should any disorder or accident deprive them of this cow, its value is reimbursed by a contributory club.

The Church at Burton is a handsome structure of the thirteenth century, and is capable of containing five hundred people. It consists of three aisles, each provided with a double row of pews, oak-coloured. At the west end a large modern gallery has been erected; and this also contains a good barrel organ. The pulpit and desks are placed in a good situation: the communion-table is covered with a rich crimson cloth; and in a niche on the south side of the chancel is a full-length mutilated figure of one of the family of the Normans, as a Knight of Malta, the shield and crest visible on the left arm, though rather indis-

tinctly ; but the sword by the side of the figure is in good preservation.

In 1770 the banks of the Trent gave way a little below Gainsborough, and in a few days the inundation spread over all the low grounds about Burton. That a similar calamity should not recur, the shores on each side have been since secured by numerous jetties.

Aldborough Hill, near Burton, is still remarkable for what is called a *Julian Bower*, or kind of labyrinth upon its summit ; and it is remarked “ as not a little surprising that this piece of Roman ingenuity has been kept in high preservation during the course and revolutions of many centuries. A way up to it has been cut out on three sides exposed to the waters ; but viewing it from its base, its magnitude appears extremely striking. It is no doubt the remains of a fortification for the defence of the country against invaders.”

On leaving Burton, we proceed in a more easterly direction, and at the distance of eleven miles, pass through the town of Barton, which we have already described ; two miles and a half beyond which is BARROW, a large but irregularly-built village, formerly the seat of the ancient and celebrated family of Tirwhit.

About a mile north-west of this village in a large tract of marsh land bordering on the Humber, is an earth-work, called the Castle, which Dr. Stukeley calls an alate Druid Temple. It consists of irregular ramparts of considerable height, enclosing certain round hillocks. Some tumuli on the north side below have been opened.

Two miles and a half from Barrow we pass through the village of THORNTON.

About two miles to the south-east of the village, near the mouth of the Humber, are the ruins of Thornton College, or Abbey, where, in taking down a wall some years ago, the workmen found a human skeleton, with a table, a book, and a can-

dlestick; the person is supposed to have been immured for some crime.

Five miles from Thornton, we pass through the village of Killingholme; about one mile to the south-east of which, at Newsham, was the first monastery of the Premonstratensian order in England, which was built by Peter de Gonsla, or Gonsel, in the year 1143, or 1146.

About four miles to the west of Killingholme, on a ridge of the downs, is Yarborough Camp, a large entrenchment, said to be of Roman origin.

Returning to our road at Killingholme, we take a southerly direction, and after passing through the villages of Keelby, Aylesbury, and Laceby, at the distance of eleven miles, at the town of Grimsby, we conclude our tour.

GRIMSBY, or GREAT GRIMSBY, so called to distinguish it from a village of the same name, is a borough, market, and sea-port town, which formerly possessed a considerable share of foreign commerce, and was distinguished for its internal trade. The town still enjoys many immunities, has a weekly market on Wednesdays, and an annual fair on St. Bartholomew's day. It also sends two members to parliament. Of its origin and ancient history much has been written. The story, that it was founded by a merchant named Gryme, who obtained great riches in consequence of having brought up an exposed child, called *Haveloc*, who proved to be of royal Danish blood, and, from being scullion in the King's kitchen, had the honour to marry the King's daughter, is ridiculed by Camden, and placed among old wives' fables. The corporation seal, which appears to be very ancient, however, emblematically gives countenance to such a story, whether fictitious or true. Holles supposes this town was founded by a Norwegian pirate; and Macpherson observes, "Grimsby is noted by the Norwegian, or Islandic writers, as an

emporium, resorted to by merchants from Norway, Scotland, Orkney, and the Western Islands*."

The town is governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, and thirty-six burgesses. The mayor and bailiffs hold separate courts; the former on Tuesday, the latter on Friday. The first charter was granted in the reign of King John. It was once rich and populous, and carried on considerable trade. In the reign of Edward the Third, Grimsby furnished eleven ships, and one hundred and seventy mariners, to assist at the siege of Calais. But the trade afterwards forsook it, and the harbour became nearly choked with sand. Formerly it was fortified with two blockhouses, of which no traces remain. The spirit of the place has of late revived. The harbour has been improved, and a dock constructed at a great expence, by which means the trade of the port has been increased, and the town extended by many additional buildings. In the town were formerly two churches, that of St. Mary's, which was an handsome building, and its steeple, a good land mark for mariners, has been long since taken down. *St. James's church* is a spacious structure, built in the form of a cross, with a tower in the centre. Originally it was of greater extent, a part of the choir having fallen down about the year 1600. The steeple is a beautiful specimen of English pointed architecture, and appears to have suffered less from the depredations of time than other parts of the church. The alterations it has undergone at different periods by no means correspond with the style of the original building. In the upper part of the steeple is this inscription, "Pray for the soul of *John Empringham*." This person was eminent, according to Gervas Hollest†. This gentleman was born here

* Annals of Commerce, Vol. I. p. 391.

† He has given a minute description of the mo-

in the reign of Henry the Fourth, and was a considerable benefactor to the church. The large west window had figures of the kings of Judah branching off from the stem of Jesse. In the church are many ancient monuments and inscribed stones, some of which appear to have been removed from the three monasteries that were formerly in the town.

Beside a monastery of gray friars, and a convent of Benedictine nuns, Grimsby had a priory of Augustine canons, founded by King Henry the First, who liberally endowed, and conferred on it several privileges. These his grandson, Henry the Second, confirmed, and further granted that the monks should enjoy their lands and rentals free from all exactions and secular services; a proof of the power and influence of the religious orders during that period of our history.

Stow relates, that JOHN WALSH, a native of this place, being accused of high treason by a gentleman of Navarre, did, on St. Andrew's day, in the eighth year of King Richard the Second, A. D. 1385, enter the lists to combat with the "Navarois, named Martileto de Vilenos," that he might, according to the custom of the times, refute the charge, by obtaining the victory over his antagonist; which having gained, his traducer was hanged for false accusation.

The brightest ornament of this place was that eminently distinguished prelate, Dr. JOHN WHITGIFT, *Archbishop of Canterbury*. He received his education in the university of Cambridge, where he became master of Trinity College, and Regius professor of divinity. He was first promoted to

numents and armorial bearings found in the several windows in this church, among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum.

the see of Worcester, and thence translated to the metropolitan see of Canterbury. A lover of order, he became a zealous assertor of the doctrines and discipline of the established church, against the violent advocate of the puritans, *Cartwright*, who, with his followers, were encouraged and supported in their opposition by numerous friends at court. Whitgift, however, conducted the controversy with so much wisdom, moderation, and piety, that he overcame and won over many of his adversaries, though he could not convince those obstinate enemies, who would be satisfied with nothing, except the overthrow of the constitution, and destruction of the hierarchy. This prelate was born in the year 1530, and died February 29th, A.D. 1603.

END OF SURVEY OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

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